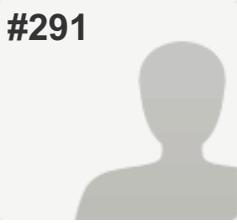


Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

#291



COMPLETE

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PAGE 1

Q1: OPTIONAL: This recommendation was submitted by (please provide your first and last name, affiliation, and email address)

First Name	Virginia
Last Name	Shubert
Affiliation	Shubert Botein Policy Associates
Email Address	gshubert@shubertbotein.com

Q2: Title of your recommendation Affordable housing protection as a bridge to work for people with HIV.

Q3: Please provide a description of your proposed recommendation

For people with HIV/AIDS (PWH) who rely on rental assistance funded by NYS and local social service districts to live independently, returning to full or part-time work poses a direct threat to their housing stability. For those wishing to return to work, fear of losing essential housing support has been repeatedly cited as a barrier. Residents of supportive housing, however, are currently able to earn up to \$36,000 (in NYC) and remain housed as long as they contribute 30% of their income towards the cost of their housing. The 30% rent cap affordable housing protection available in NYC to persons with income from disability benefits provides an excellent model for a housing "bridge" to work. The recommendation is to expand eligibility for the affordable housing protection to PHW who are receiving publicly funded rental assistance (typically through the HIV enhanced rental assistance program) who return to work and have \$36,000 or less in annual earned income. PWH taking advantage of this program to return to work would pay 30% of their income towards rent.

Q4: For which goal outlined in the Governor's plan to end the epidemic in New York State does this recommendation apply? (Select all that apply)

Linking and retaining persons diagnosed with HIV to health care and getting them on anti-HIV therapy to maximize HIV virus suppression so they remain healthy and prevent further transmission

Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

Q5: This recommendation should be considered by the following Ending the Epidemic Task Force Committee (Select all that apply)

Housing and Supportive Services Committee: Develop recommendations that strengthen proven interventions enabling optimal engagement and linkage and retention in care for those most in need. This Committee will recommend interventions that effectively address complex and intersecting health and social conditions and reduce health disparities, particularly among New York's low-income and most vulnerable and marginalized residents. These interventions will diminish barriers to care and enhance access to care and treatment leaving no subpopulation behind.

Q6: Does this recommendation require a change to an existing policy or program, or the creation of a new policy or program?

Change to existing program

Q7: Would implementation of this recommendation be permitted under current laws or would a statutory change be required?

Unknown

Q8: Is this recommendation something that could feasibly be implemented in the short-term (within the next year) or long-term (within the next three to six years)?

Within the next year

Q9: What are the perceived benefits of implementing this recommendation?

Facilitating employment among PWH who currently rely on public assistance or disability benefits while sustaining the housing stability necessary to benefit from HIV treatment and move to greater independence. The program would also remove an existing disincentive for PWH to move out of supportive housing to independent living, freeing supported units for those with more complex needs.

Q10: Are there any concerns with implementing this recommendation that should be considered?

Respondent skipped this question

Q11: What is the estimated cost of implementing this recommendation and how was this estimate calculated?

The program would continue and existing benefit for persons moving on to work, so is not an added expense.

Q12: What is the estimated return on investment (ROI) for this recommendation and how was the ROI calculated?

Facilitating return to the workforce and eventually ending reliance of publicly funded benefits.

Q13: Who are the key individuals/stakeholders who would benefit from this recommendation?

PWH who would like to return to work.

Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

Q14: Are there suggested measures to accompany this recommendation that would assist in monitoring its impact?

of persons receiving rental assistance who have earned income

Q15: This recommendation was submitted by one of the following Advocate