



May 20, 2020

Mr. Paul Ray  
Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
725 17th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Ray:

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is requesting an expedited review of the attached Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) COVID-19 Data Report (CDR) module. This new data report was developed by the HRSA HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) to support a requirement to monitor and report on funds distributed under the fiscal year (FY) 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The CARES Act appropriated \$90 million to the HRSA HAB Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) among RWHAP clients and immediate household members. As the CARES Act was signed into law only recently on March 27, 2020, no existing data collection system currently captures the information contained in the proposed CDR.

The CDR will collect monthly, aggregate data on the allowable RWHAP service categories provided and number of people served for the treatment or prevention of COVID-19 among RWHAP. The CDR module will be housed in the Electronic Handbooks (EHB), an existing website for RWHAP recipients to enter other data required for RWHAP-funded agencies, such as the Grantee Contract Management System (GCMS), RWHAP Services Report (RSR), and the Allocations and Expenditures Reports. The integration of the CDR module into the existing EHB ensures that respondents will be familiar with the data collection method and streamlines users' access and technology knowledge. The EHB also allows some information to pre-populate from other systems, particularly organization details, so that users can easily update or change their data.

HRSA aims to open the CDR for reporting on the first of each month (beginning on June 1, 2020). Respondents will have until the 15th of each month to complete the module. Information provided by RWHAP providers via the CDR will be compiled in a summary report, to include counts of the number of clients newly diagnosed (or presumed positive) with COVID-19, the total number of clients with COVID-19 served, the number of clients who received RWHAP services in each service category using COVID-19 funding, and the use of telehealth technology to provide services.

The CDR is both time-sensitive and urgent in order to meet federal reporting requirements as outlined in the CARES Act. The original data reporting deadline for RWHAP recipients was May 15, 2020 (30 days after issuance of the notice of award). Due to the time required to build the new module in the Bureau Reporting System (BRS), however, this deadline was extended to June 15, 2020. Additional delays in the initial submission of CDR data could hinder HRSA's ability to meet the deadline to submit a quarterly report to the Secretary of Health and Human Services and to Congress.

The CDR will provide HRSA with frequent and timely data on the use of CARES Act RWHAP funding by providing information on the number of RWHAP clients and immediate household members who are provided services to treat or prevent COVID-19. This module will also support project officer monitoring and HRSA's understanding of potential changes in RWHAP needs and service provision during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Engels". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent horizontal line at the top.

Thomas J. Engels  
Administrator

Enclosure