



HIV/AIDS Bureau

Rockville MD 20857

JAN 06 2012

Dear Colleagues:

On December 23, 2011, the Congress enacted the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012, Pub. L. 112-74. The law reinstates the ban on federal funding for syringe exchange programs. Consequently, funding for Syringe Services Programs (SSPs), inclusive of syringe exchange, access, and disposal, is no longer a permissible activity. Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program grantees are prohibited from using Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funds to support SSPs. Your project officer and/or your grants management specialist will contact you in the next several weeks to renegotiate your budgets if you proposed using fiscal year 2012 funds for SSP efforts. The amount of your award will not change, but you must submit a revised budget to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

HRSA remains committed to providing needed guidance to Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program grantees and programs regarding this statutory change and assisting you in making the necessary adjustments. If you have questions or concerns regarding these changes and how they impact your efforts, please feel free to raise these concerns with your project officer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deborah Parham Hopson".

Deborah Parham Hopson, PhD, RN, FAAN
Assistant Surgeon General
Associate Administrator