

INTEGRATING FOR IMPACT

The origins and practice of the
Structural Interventions Working Group (SIWG)
of the Federal AIDS Policy Partnership (FAPP)

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Policy Goal

Coordinate a national strategy to ensure access to quality and affordable:

- **HOUSING**
- **FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES**
- **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

for all PLWHA who are in need.

Structural Interventions

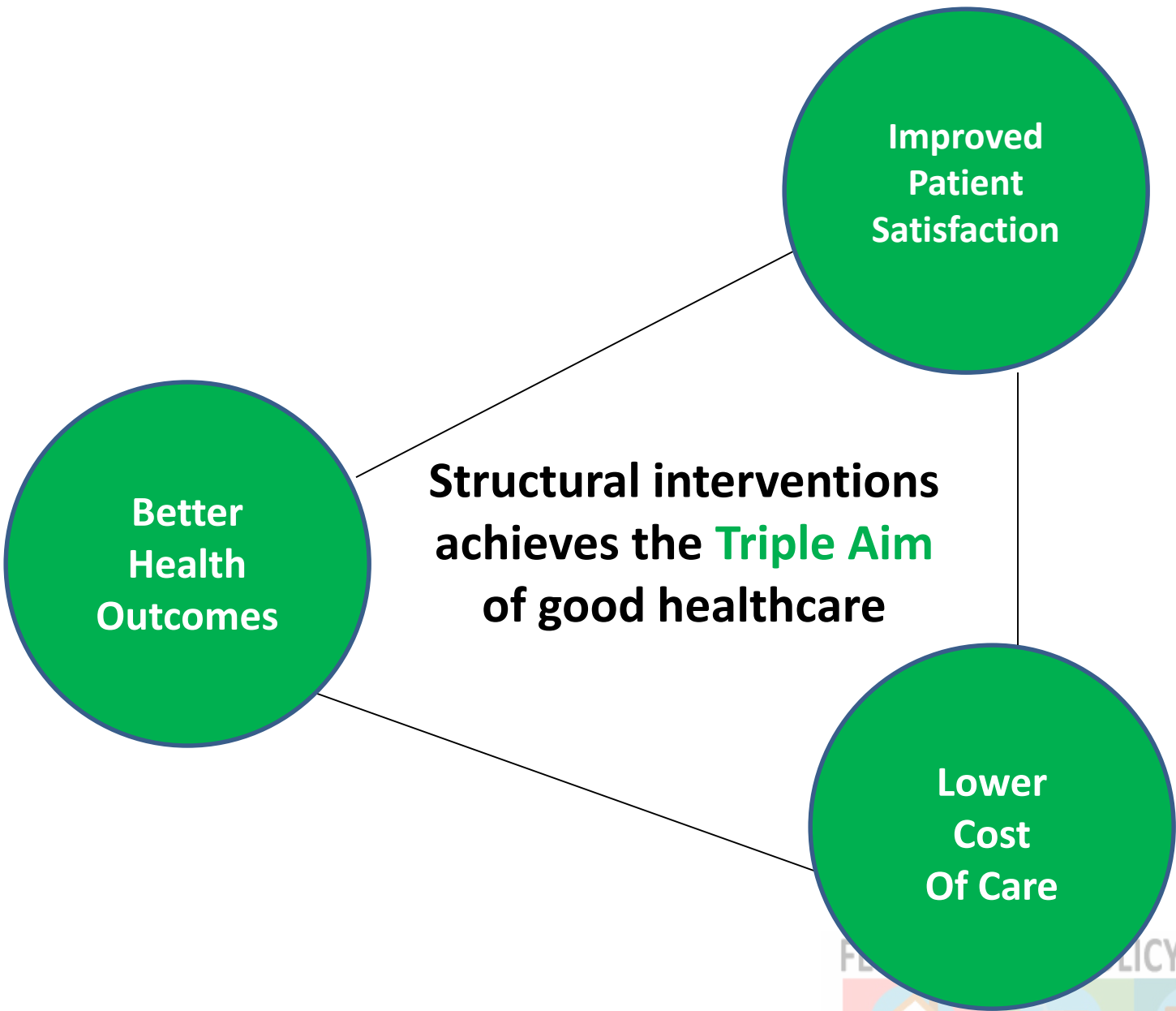
Having a safe home, sufficient food and employment:

- Help reduce risk-taking behaviors
- Help reduce socioeconomic vulnerabilities
- Help people:
 - Connect to care
 - Adhere to treatment
 - Improve health
 - Enhance prevention

Policy environment – NHAS (2010)

The National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States (NHAS)

1. Reducing the number of people who become infected with HIV,
2. Increasing access to care and optimizing health outcomes for people living with HIV, and
3. Reducing HIV-related health disparities.



Structural Interventions

Support services provide a safe home, sufficient food, and employment for people living with HIV/AIDS. These services help reduce risk-taking behaviors, help people connect to care, adhere to treatment and improve health.



Housing Services

Compared to stably housed individuals, marginally housed individuals are:

Less likely to have regular access to care



More likely to delay treatment



Less likely to adhere to medication



HOPWA funding only supports 53,000 of the 1.1 million individuals living with HIV/AIDS in need of housing.



Housing assistance reduces the use of hospital services, saving \$7,000 per person housed.

Housing policies are needed to make safe, affordable housing available to all people living with HIV/AIDS. Policies should make housing assistance a priority and monitor housing status to indicate HIV treatment effectiveness.



Food & Nutrition Services

Compared to food secure individuals, food insecure individuals:

Are less likely to have undetectable viral loads



Have lower CD4 counts



Report more missed primary care appointments



Proper food and nutrition help increase absorption of medication, reduce side effects, and maintain a healthy body weight



For each day in a hospital saved, you can feed a person medically tailored meals for half a year.

Food and Nutrition Services are key to accomplishing the triple aim of national healthcare reform. To achieve a more coordinated response to HIV and to reduce national healthcare expenditures they must be included in all efforts.



Employment Services

For people living with HIV/AIDS, employment is associated with:

Improved self care



Improved behavioral and physical health



Reduced health risk



About 3 out of 5 people living with HIV/AIDS are unemployed.



Employment is a key component for stable housing and food security.

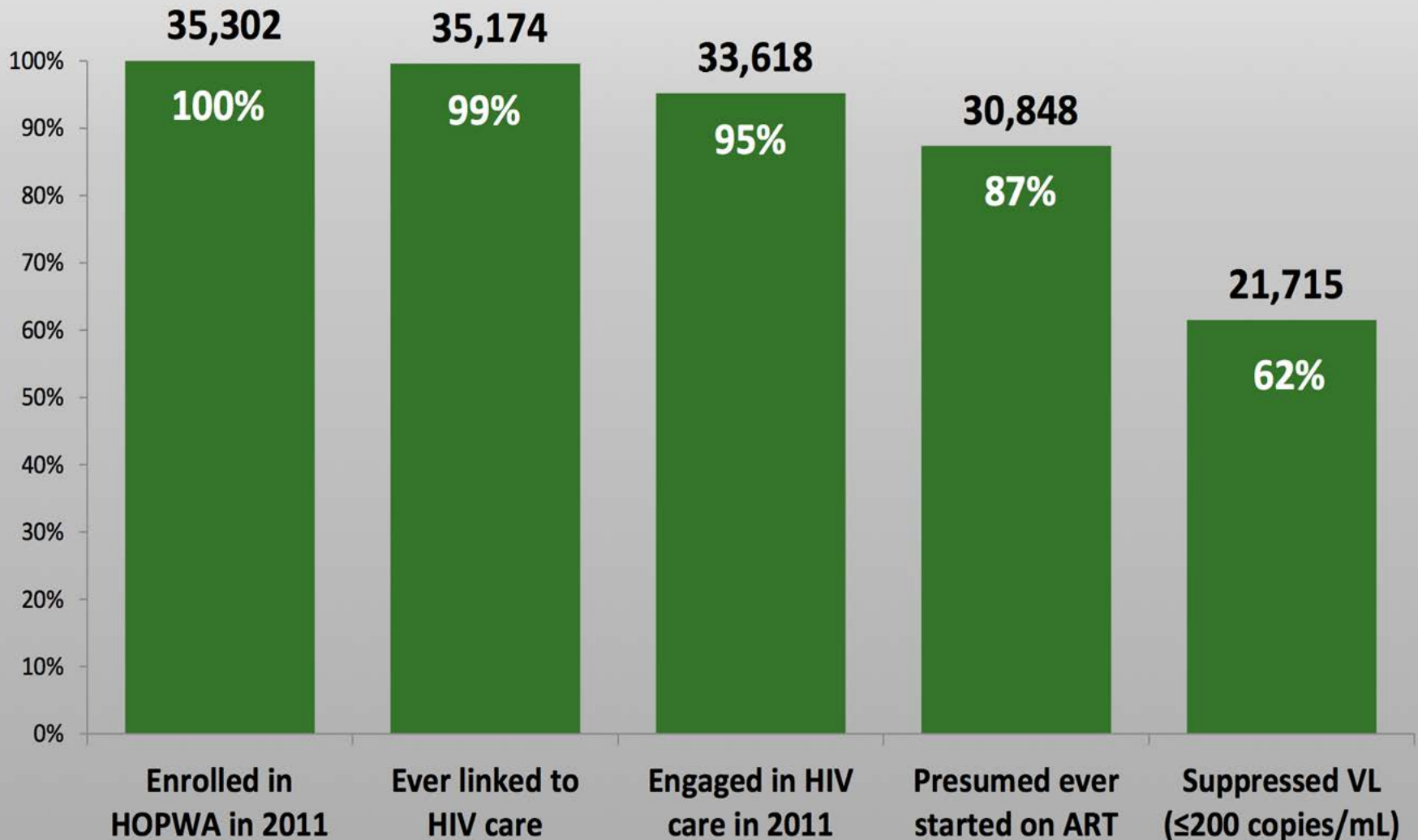
Coordination must be developed between sectors to meet the employment needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. Efforts should provide housing, vocational rehabilitation, workforce development, education, and reentry services.

FEDERAL AIDS POLICY PARTNERSHIP



STRUCTURAL INTERVENTIONS WG

NYC HOPWA Care Cascade, 2011



As reported to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene by September 30, 2012

*Slides taken from Laura McAllister-Hollod, MPH, John Rojas, MPA, NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE



Lower Cost of Care with FNS

Research shows that adding medically tailored food to a care plan dramatically reduces healthcare costs for PLWHA from \$50,000/month to \$17,000/month*.

Members who are adequately nourished have:

- Fewer emergency room visits
- Fewer missed primary care appointments
- If hospitalized:
 - costs were 30% lower*
 - length of stay reduced by 37%*

*Gurvey J, Rand K, Daugherty S, Dinger C, [Schmeling J](#), Lavery N. Examining Health Care Costs Among MANNA Clients and a Comparison Group. OMG Center for Collaborative Learning, Philadelphia, PA, USA. [J Prim Care CoMMCunity Health](#). 2013 Jun 3. [Epub ahead of print].

Employment and HIV Health and Prevention

- Meta-analysis of 23 studies involving 6,674 people (ILO, 2013)
 - Employed participants were 39% more likely to have achieved optimal adherence to antiretroviral meds (>95% adherence)
- NWPC Vocational Development and Employment Needs Survey (2506 PLHIV 2008-2009)
 - 63% employed when diagnosed; 32% employed when surveyed
 - Majority of employed (after period of not working) survey participants reported no change, or
 - decreases in: viral load (38%), alcohol use (35%), drug use (34%), condom-less sex (30%)
 - increases in: self care (49%), CD4 count (37%), medication adherence (21%)

The beginnings of FAPP SIWG

Despite research findings and post-ACA....

- No legislation supporting SI
- No reflection in funding levels

Expansion of FAPP Housing Working Group

- National HIV/AIDS Housing Coalition (NHAC) –
Housing

+

- God's Love We Deliver (GLWD) - FNS
- National Working Positive Coalition (NWPC) -
Employment



Synthesis of SI Research

Poverty as a root cause, destabilizing treatment and health outcomes of PLHIV

- Low income = housing instability and food insecurity
- Homeless and unstably housed likely to delay treatment
- Competing priorities in housing, food, clothing, etc.
- Food insecurity leads to worse care engagement and health outcomes
- Employment leads to better treatment adherence and health outcomes

Strengths of Synergy

- Mixed coalition, combined advocacy
- Messaging and communications
- Shared decision-making
- Collaboration as a rule

Lessons Learned

- Knowledge gaps, external and internal
 - Targeted education and outreach
 - Outdated federal understanding
- Reframing conversations on living with HIV
 - PLHIV can flourish
 - Integration of services
 - Updated SI
 - Policy for the whole person

SIWG Shared Progress

- Amplifying structural interventions through awareness
- Shared advocacy
- NHAS 2.0

SIWG Shared Issues

- Data on SI
- Impact on highly vulnerable populations
- Ryan White

SIWG Next Steps

- Expansion, inclusion of other SI
 - Access to harm reduction services
 - Violence and trauma-informed care
 - Legal services
- Awareness building, communications
- Cost-benefit analyses of SI
- Better integration with full FAPP

FOR MORE INFORMATION

NAHC: www.nationalaidshousing.org

God's Love, We Deliver: www.glwd.org

National Working Positive Coalition: www.workingpositive.net

HIV Prevention Justice Alliance: www.preventionjustice.org



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