

**Ryan White** Medical Providers Coalition

# **Welcome to the RWMPC Membership Update**

**October 4, 2018  
IDWeek  
San Francisco, CA**

***Thank You!***



**IIDSA**

**hivma**

***For providing dedicated staffing for  
RWMPC, including federal advocacy  
training and support, since 2008***

# RWMPC Steering Committee

**Georgina Osorio, MD**

***Co-Chair***

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***Co-Chair***

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Atlanta, GA

**Alice Thornton, MD, FIDSA**

Lexington, KY

**Bruce Williams, MD, MPH**

Albuquerque, NM

**Jenny Collier, JD**

Coalition Convener



Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition

**RWMPC Advocacy  
Amplifies RW Medical Provider Voices**

**Michelle Ogle, MD**

Former RWMPC Co-Chair

&

**Kate McManus, MD, MSCR**

RWMPC Steering Committee Member

# RWMPC Advocates in Action!





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# RWMPC Advocacy: Voicing RW Medical Provider Priorities



**RWMPC builds relationships with policy makers** so that *Ryan White medical providers can voice their priorities by:*

- Meeting with **Congressional & Administration officials**
- Submitting Congressional **testimony**
- Participating in Congressional **briefings**
- Hosting **clinic visits** for Congress and Administration
- Providing **input** on HIV & related issues to policy makers

# HIV Medical Providers Are Effective Advocates

- Viewed as **responsible**
- **Knowledgeable** and **expert**
- Affiliated with **important community institutions** –universities, health ctrs
- **Simplify complex issues** – akin to patient education
- Know a lot of people, so are **influential**
- **Advocacy Success:** *RWMPC members and staff* successfully campaigned for federal funding for syringe services programs by:
  - **Visiting with Congressional offices**
  - **Participating as *experts*** at Hill briefings
  - **Testifying before** Congressional committees





# 2017-2018 RWMPC Advocacy Achievements

- **2018 RWMPC DC Advocacy Meeting was the *largest ever*** - conducted **70+ meetings**
- **RWMPC/HIVMA member testified before Congress,** advocating for more RWP & opioid response funding
- **More RWMPC members hosted clinic visits**
- This advocacy helped to ***protect & maintain RWP funding!***



# RWMPC Needs *Your* Advocacy Now!



- **Request support from RWMPC** – RWMPC wants to ***amplify your medical provider voice*** through training, advice, and staff support
- **Respond to action alerts** to ***call, email, or contact on social media*** your members of Congress
- **Invite members of Congress and staff** to ***visit your clinic***

# The Power of Clinic Visits: Where Local Meets Federal Advocacy



- **Clinic visits are an effective advocacy tool** because they provide that opportunity for *show and tell*
- **Clinic visits are a great way to engage in advocacy** - you are showcasing *success stories and local needs*
- **RWMPC can help you plan** an effective clinic visit — *contact the RWMPC Convener for assistance!*

# Additional RWMPC & HIVMA Advocacy Resources

- **RWMPC & HIVMA clinic visit check list, & HIVMA advocacy and media tips & webinars:** <https://www.hivma.org/policy--advocacy/ryan-white-medical-providers-coalition/ryan-white-medical-providers-coalition2/>
- **HIVMA/IDSA Advocacy Guide:** <https://goo.gl/4oth6S>



## Action Center

Home	Key Issues ▾	Advocacy Guide	Take Action	idsociety.org	hivma.org	ScienceSpeaksBlog.org	
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### Taking Action: An Advocacy How-To Guide

As ID and HIV experts, your Members of Congress need to hear from you about the role that federal programs, policies, and funding play in supporting local and state efforts to monitor, prevent and treat infectious diseases, and in conducting the research necessary to improve the U.S. and global response to infectious diseases.

Your advocacy makes a difference. Medical providers, researchers, and public health professionals are a trusted source for information. You have a unique frontline perspective to share with policymakers regarding how federal programs and policies benefit your patients, institution, community and state. IDSA and HIVMA compiled this guide to assist members in communicating with Congressional members. Please contact [Lisa Cox](#) with IDSA or [George Fistonich](#) with HIVMA, if you have questions, feedback or if we can be of any assistance.

### Advocacy Resources

#### GENERAL

- IDSA and HIVMA Members Speak: Why Advocacy Matters
- Tips on Lobbying and Working with Legislators and their Staff
- How to Become an Advocate for HIV and ID: IDSA/HIVMA Advocacy 101 Webinar
- Social Media as a Policy Education and Communications Tool: A Primer for HIV ID Providers Webinar
- Tips for Aspiring Op-Ed Writers (NYT)
- RWMPC Site Visit Checklist

Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition

## **Federal Policy Update**

**Jenny Collier, JD**

RWMPC Convener

&

**Andrea Weddle, MSW**

HIVMA Executive Director



# 2017-2018 RWMPC Policy Priorities



- **Ensure Ryan White Program support & continuation** by *protecting* Ryan White Program (RWP) funds, *improving* RWP administration, and *preparing* for *future* RWP reauthorization
- **Educate Congress about the key role the 340B Program plays** at some RWP clinics supporting access to care
- **Advocate for improved opioid epidemic responses**, including:
  - *Increased funding for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment*
  - *SUD workforce loan forgiveness* covering a range of medical providers
  - *non-RWP funding* for the prevention and treatment of SUD-related infections (HIV, HCV, etc.)

# 2017-2018 RWMPC Policy Achievements



- ***Protected & maintained FY18 and FY19 RWP funding***
- ***Achieved opioid response funding increases & policy improvements***
- ***Provided feedback on RWP administration, including:***
  - RWP recertification
  - Proposed RWP data collection
  - HAB & project officer communication of policy & funding issues

# Protecting Ryan White Program Funding



- **Congress has determined FY19 funding** for the RWP, and *all parts of the RWP received level funding!*
- **Opioid epidemic responses and NIH research** are some of the few health programs to receive FY19 funding increases
- **Midterm election results should provide guidance** on how funding issues could change next Congress

# RWP Reauthorization: Preparing for the Future



- Trump Administration position on RWP reauthorization is **unclear**
- HIV advocates have included suggested RWP changes in the ***Act Now End AIDS (ANEA) draft strategy*** scheduled for release on World AIDS Day (Dec 1<sup>st</sup>)
- ***Most HIV advocates and key Congressional leaders agree*** that given the ***uncertainty*** of the environment, ***it is NOT YET time to reauthorize – will reassess in new Congress***

# The Opioid Epidemic: Improving the Federal Response



- **Congress passed an opioid bill that would *authorize*:**
  - *Loan forgiveness for medical providers* who provide SUD treatment
  - *A new CDC infectious diseases initiative* to work with states to improve education, surveillance, and treatment of IDU infections
- **Congress *appropriated* FY19 funding for opioid response:**
  - **\$1.5 billion** for state opioid response grants through SAMHSA
  - **\$120 million** for HRSA's Rural Communities Opioid Response Program
  - **\$5 million in *new funding*** for CDC to improve surveillance, treatment & education efforts for opioid-related infections (HBV, HCV, HIV) prioritizing areas most at risk for HIV & hepatitis outbreaks due to injection drug use



# 340B Drug Discount Program

- Offers certain federal grantees and hospitals discounted prices for drugs and **allows savings to be used to “stretch scarce federal resources.”**
- In 2015 - 340B drugs only accounted for **4.2%** of undiscounted drug sales & reduced drug sales by an estimated **1.4%**.
- Congressional bills introduced **mainly target hospitals.**
- Administration cut 340B payments for Medicare Part B drugs for certain hospitals.
- No Congressional action...**YET**

**How are 340B savings used for HIV services by your clinic or hospital? Email: [aweddle@hivma.org](mailto:aweddle@hivma.org)**

# Proposed Changes to “Public Charge” Definition

- **“Public Charge”** is used to determine eligibility for a green card
- **Expands definition** for what constitutes a “public charge”
- Proposed rule **DOES NOT include the RWP** in definition
- **Does include** non-emergency Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, Medicare Part D Low-income Subsidy
- **Rule not in place yet**; will *not* be retroactive

**Learn More:**

**[www.ProtectingImmigrantFamilies.org](http://www.ProtectingImmigrantFamilies.org)**



Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition

**Discussion Forum:**  
**RWMPC Needs Your Feedback!**

***Moderated by:***

**Barb Gripshover, MD**

Former RWMPC Co-Chair

**&**

**Chris Bositis, MD**

RWMPC Steering Committee Member

# Discussion Forum



- Have you recently experienced **hurdles related to Ryan White Program administration or policy?**
- **Does your Ryan White Program have a 340B program?** If yes, what does this program income fund at your clinic?
- Are there **opioid epidemic challenges**, including **workforce or funding challenges**, you are experiencing? **What is needed** to better address SUD and related infectious diseases?

# Thank You & Please Keep In Touch!



- **Thank you** for your valuable feedback and the discussion!
- **Join RWMPC:**
  - *Sign up today at your table*
  - *Email [info@hivma.org](mailto:info@hivma.org)*
- **Contact RWMPC:**
  - [info@hivma.org](mailto:info@hivma.org)
  - (703) 299-1215
  - [www.hivma.org](http://www.hivma.org)