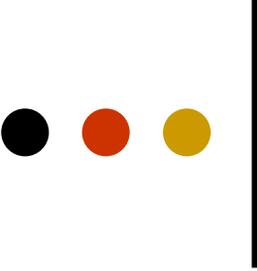


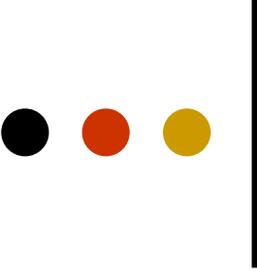
Hep-C ALERT, Inc.

Addiction Recovery Hepatitis Intervention Project



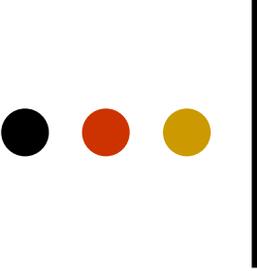
*ar*HIP Introduction

- Hep-C ALERT
 - Founded 1997
 - Community agency – local/nat'l
- Florida Viral Hepatitis Program
 - Home Access Health Corporation
 - Miami-Dade and Broward County Health Department Hepatitis Programs



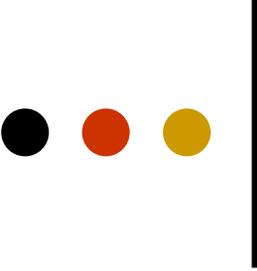
*ar*HIP History

- Needs assessment (Feb 2002)
- Self-funded pilot (Mar-Sep 2002)
 - 4 sites / 2 counties
 - n=250
- Grants: Health Foundation of South Florida/\$75k and Roche/\$9k
 - Submitted June 2002
 - Funding started Oct 2002 (6-sites)



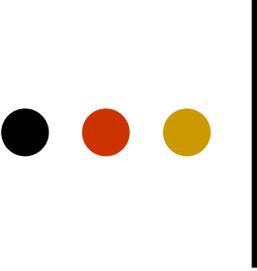
*ar*HIP Goals

- Among adult residential drug treatment program residents:
 - Increase viral hepatitis education, awareness, testing and referral for follow-up care
 - Prevent new viral hepatitis infections
 - Evaluate an integrated approach to viral hepatitis intervention



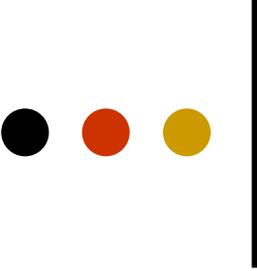
*ar*HIP Collaboration

- Hep-C ALERT
 - Project administration and staffing, client education, counseling and testing services
- Miami-Dade & Broward County Health Departments
 - Vaccine and nursing services
- Residential Treatment Programs
 - Client access, permanent office space, program cooperation



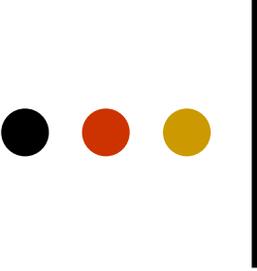
*ar*HIP Client Objectives

- Provide viral hepatitis health education to **1000** residential drug treatment clients
- Perform individual risk assessment and counseling for 95%
 - HCV testing for 85%
 - 1st & 2nd dose of hepatitis B vaccine for 90% of eligible clients
 - 50% completing the 3-shot series



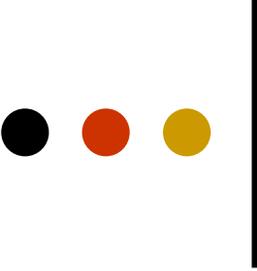
*ar*HIP Intervention Design

- Specific *ar*HIP staff assigned to each site 1 to 1.5 days every week
- Monthly viral hepatitis workshop
 - Required for all newly admitted clients to attend as part of their recovery program
- Monthly vaccination session with CHD nurse facilitated by *ar*HIP staff
- 2-session individual level intervention with *ar*HIP staff (duration ½ hr. ea.)



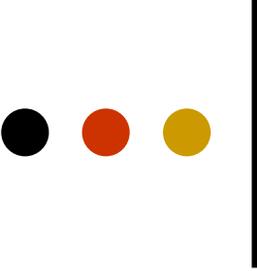
*ar*HIP First Session

- Informed consent for survey
- Verbally administered survey
- Risk assessment: determine prior vaccine and HCV testing history
- HCV informed consent, pre-test counseling and testing
- Vaccine informed consent, VIS and schedule
- Written 3-part “Hepatitis Action Plan”



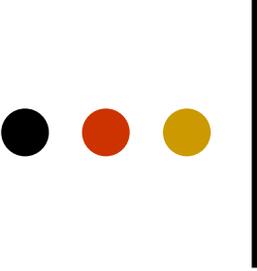
*ar*HIP Second Session

- Review progress on “Hepatitis Action Plan”
- Post-test counseling and result notification
 - If HCV+: referral to medical staff for linkage to care
- Vaccination progress documented with instructions to access 3rd dose post-discharge at CHD-site



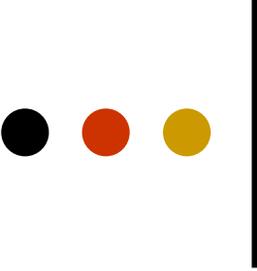
arHIP Client Demographics

- n=951 clients enrolled
 - 68% Male
 - 32% Female
- Race/Ethnicity
 - 33% Non-Hispanic Blacks
 - 35% Non-Hispanic Whites
 - 30% Hispanic
 - 2% Unknown
- Average Age: 36 years (range 18-66)



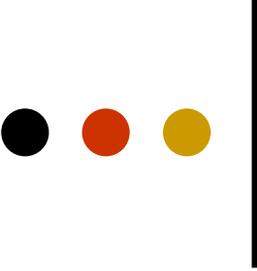
*ar*HIP Client Characteristics

- 26% current/former IDU
- Lifetime sex partners
 - 49% 50 – 99 partners
 - 9% 100-499 partners
 - 3% 500+ partners
- 53% had been in residential treatment at least once before
- 85% had a history of incarceration



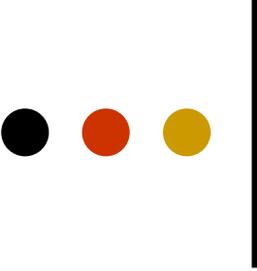
*ar*HIP Objectives Met

- 99% of workshop participants received ILI and were offered HCV testing and HAV/HBV vaccination. Of those:
 - 84% elected testing for HCV (15% +)
 - 81% (of eligible clients remaining in program) received 1 dose of vaccine
 - 94% (of eligible clients remaining in program) received 2nd dose of vaccine



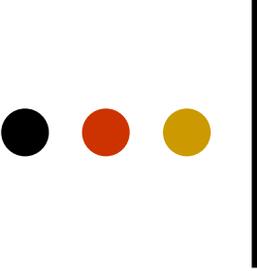
*ar*HIP Vaccine Delivery

- Two county health departments with slightly different approaches
 - Miami-Dade CHD
 - Initially - HBV offered to all and HAV offered to IDUs, MSMs and HCV+
 - Twinrix implemented for a short time but reverted to above strategy
 - Broward CHD
 - HAV and HBV offered to all
 - Twinrix offered to all



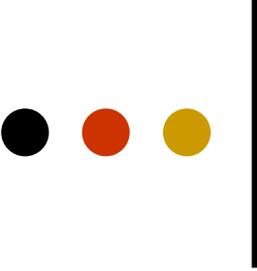
arHIP Stellar Performance

- What worked
 - CBO as the core of the service infrastructure had flexibility to tailor program to accommodate six sites and two health department programs
 - Having sufficient funding and in-kind resources available from DOH
 - Having buy-in from the treatment programs and unrestricted access to their clients



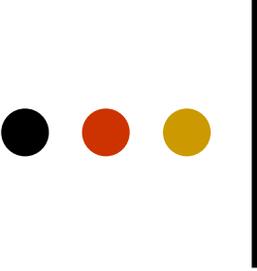
*ar*HIP Less Than Stellar...

- *ar*HIP year-1 not without hardships!
 - Treatment program admin bought-in but their staff took much longer
 - Staff turnover
 - Laptops were not used “real-time” in the field, so dual documentation was necessary (unfunded extra \$)
 - Data analysis and evaluation took much longer than expected (unfunded extra administrative \$\$\$)



*ar*HIP Continues

- Leveraged pilot project and partial year-1 data/success to obtain continued private sector funding
 - Years 2, 3 and 4 – at three sites in Miami-Dade
 - \$45k p/year from Jackson Health System Community Health Services
 - In-kind vaccine and nursing from CHD
 - HCV test kits years 2 & 3, chronic hepatitis panel starting year 4
 - Streamlined program: 540 clients p/year



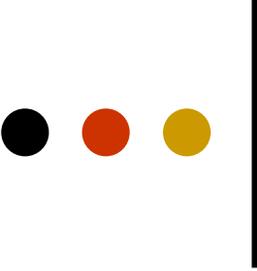
*ar*HIP Client Comments

“New people come in (to the program) who know nothing about this disease and need to know.”

“I am glad to be informed about Hepatitis. I have a son and I want to be protected so that my son will also be protected.”

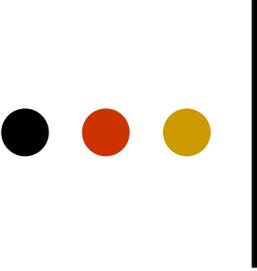
“I am very happy this is offered because I found out I have risk factors and I am very eager to get the shots and get tested.”

“Thank you for coming. I never knew all this stuff was going on. Now I can share with others and be part of the solution.”



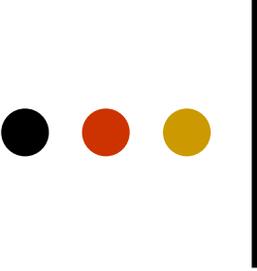
*ar*HIP Summary

- The primary lesson of the intervention was that the *ar*HIP model works —
 - Collaboration not only possible, but effective and best use of resources
 - Hep-C ALERT has had a positive impact on the lives and health of the clients it serves and through continued efforts, will help halt the spread of viral hepatitis among this vulnerable population



*ar*HIP Acknowledgment

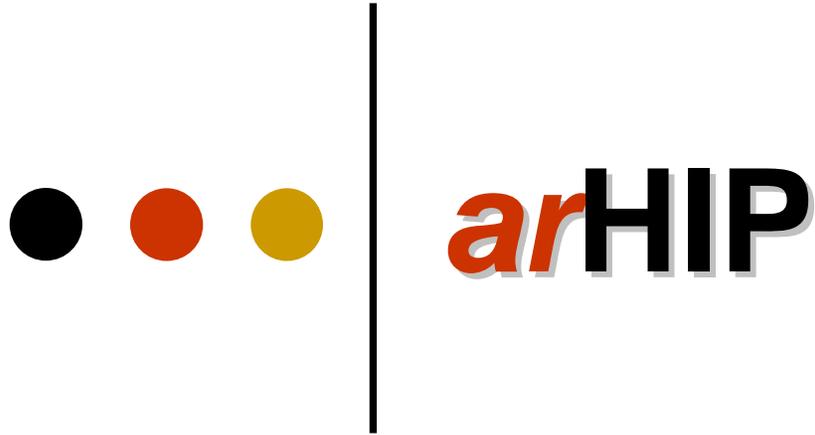
- Florida Department of Health Hepatitis Program
- Miami-Dade and Broward County Health Departments
- Health Foundation of South Florida
- Jackson Health System Community Health Services
- Roche
- Williams, Stern & Associates



*ar*HIP Acknowledgment

- The Village South
- St. Luke's Addiction Recovery Program
- Spectrum Programs (Dade & Broward)
- House of Hope
- Stepping Stones

- **AND OUR STAFF!**



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A complete copy of the **arHIP Evaluation Report** is available on our website through the end of December 2005