

Black Women First Initiative

Project Period: 2020-2024

Funder: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

About the ETAP:

An Evaluation and Technical Assistance Provider (ETAP) partnership was funded to:

- (1) support sites in implementation;
- (2) lead a mixed methods, multi-site evaluation; and
- (3) disseminate findings.

ETAP Partners:



HDI Staff on the Project:

Linda Sprague Martinez, PhD
Melanie Rocco, MSW, MPH

About the BWF Initiative

The Black Women First (BWF) Initiative is a Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part F: Special Projects of National Significance initiative that funded 12 sites across the U.S. who implemented bundled interventions to improve HIV care and treatment coordination for cisgender and transgender Black women.

Each site implemented a minimum of two interventions, which included:

- Enhanced patient navigation
- Trauma-informed care
- Red carpet care
- Self-efficacy and health literacy interventions
- Stigma reduction interventions
- Interventions that addressed intimate partner violence and/or behavioral health needs

Initiative and ETAP Highlights

Multi-site Highlights:

- 773 clients served
- 11 sites utilized client advisory boards to center Black women's perspectives in the implementation of the interventions
- Clients from 4 sites participated in a multisite photovoice project to showcase their lives and experiences in HIV care

ETAP Highlights:

- 6 multi-site convenings facilitated to enhance implementation
- 5 published briefs on ***TargetHIV***
- A special issue in the American Journal of Public Health dedicated to the BWF initiative (to be published in late 2024)

[Click here to access the *TargetHIV* BWF Initiative webpage](#)