

UNION COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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News Release

Union County Human Services to Provide HIV/AIDS Care

July 14, 2014, Monroe, NC – The Mecklenburg County Health Department has awarded the Union County Department of Human Services Ryan White Part A funding to provide services for people living with HIV/AIDS in the region. The Ryan White program is a federal program, based in the Health Resources and Services Administration, that funds core medical and support service programs for people living with HIV/AIDS who also meet certain residency and income requirements.

In order to receive Ryan White Part A funding locally, a person must have a verified HIV or AIDS diagnosis, not earn more than 300 percent of the federal poverty level and reside in the counties of Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Mecklenburg or Union in North Carolina or in York County, South Carolina.

The five specific Ryan White services funded in Union County include: Outpatient Ambulatory Medical Care, Oral Health, Nonmedical Case Management Transportation and Health Insurance Premiums\Co-pays. Over the next several weeks, Union County Human Services will bring together the necessary administrative and programmatic components to ensure a high quality level of service delivery for residents in the community living with HIV. The department will also develop informational materials in both English and Spanish for its clients regarding the services to be provided.

"The multi-dimensional Ryan White approach is so successful that it provides one of the fundamental tenets of the philosophy we are trying to instill in Union County for all human service delivery," said Executive Director of Human Services Richard Matens. "A holistic approach that considers and addresses the contributing factors to an individual's problem is the only way in which that individual will be able to diminish and eliminate his or her need for assistance. By addressing the contributing factors related to our clients' problems, we are then able to help them meet the underlying needs so that they can lead more independent and productive lives. Receiving Ryan White funding significantly validates the approach to human service delivery we are incorporating in Union County, and it is an honor to provide these services locally."

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