

# Partner Services Fact Sheet - 2021

Michigan's Partner Services (PS) program assists people living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and/or diagnosed with some sexually transmitted infections (STI) to notify their sex or needle-sharing partners of possible exposure. PS is offered by the health department, physicians, and community-based organizations.

## Role of PS

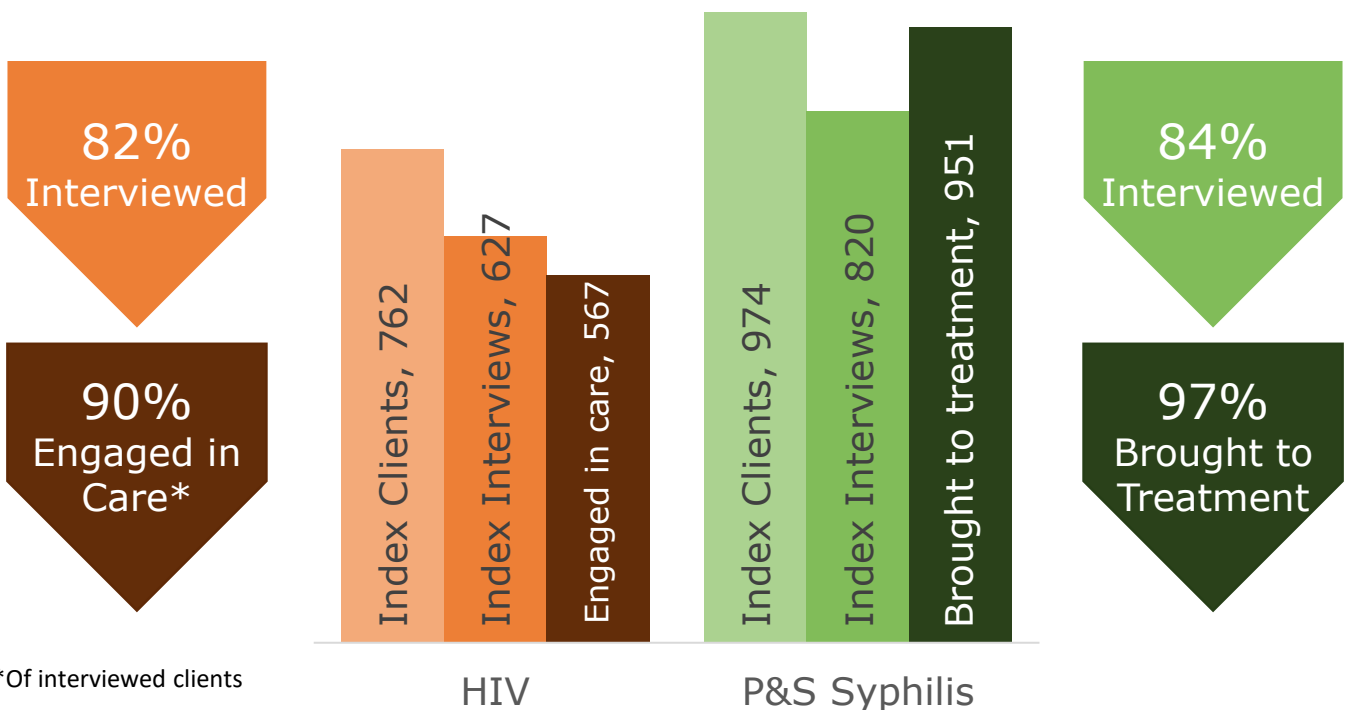
If HIV or an STI is diagnosed, a Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) will:

- Provide confidential prevention counseling to a person diagnosed with HIV/STI (*Index Client*)
- Elicit information about partners for confidential notification of a possible exposure
- Facilitate STI treatment, testing for STIs, HIV, and linkage to HIV care.
- Provide referrals to Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and case management services

## Benefits of PS

- *Confidentiality*: Throughout the notification process, names or identifiers (including dates of exposure) are never revealed to partners
- *Prevention*: Promote early diagnosis, prophylactic treatment, and referrals supporting better health outcomes
- *Education*: Connect more people to public health resources to create healthier communities with reduced disease transmission

There were 1,736 Partner Services index clients in 2021 who were newly diagnosed with HIV or primary and secondary syphilis.

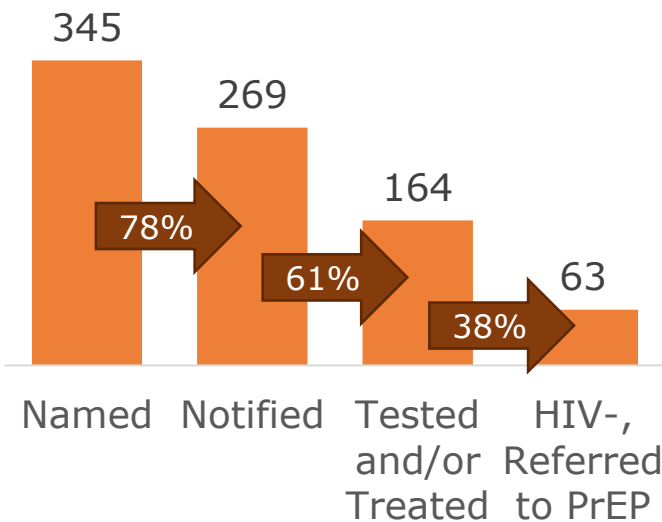


\*Of interviewed clients

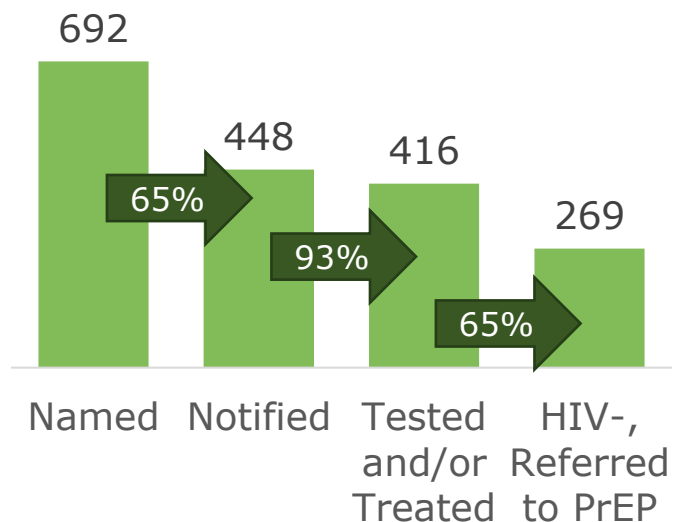
# Partner Services Fact Sheet - 2021

Intervening in HIV/STI transmissions is a primary goal of Partner Services. This is accomplished through identifying potentially exposed partners, notifying them of their exposure, providing testing and treatment as necessary, and referring to preventative health care (including PrEP) to prevent HIV infection. All of this is done while protecting the anonymity of the index client and confidentiality of the partner.

## HIV Partners



## P&S Syphilis Partners



### Health Care Providers Play a Vital Role

The connection between health care providers and patients is critical for identifying sex and/or needle-sharing partners in a compassionate and supportive manner.

Health care providers can inform their patient of the value and importance of Partner Services. It only takes a few minutes, but presenting Partner Services in a positive light will help your patients' partners and could prevent hundreds of new infections.