



Detroit Health Department

PACHA Presentation - Community Engagement Activities- Year 1
August 3, 2021

Angelique Tomsic, HIV/STI Program Director

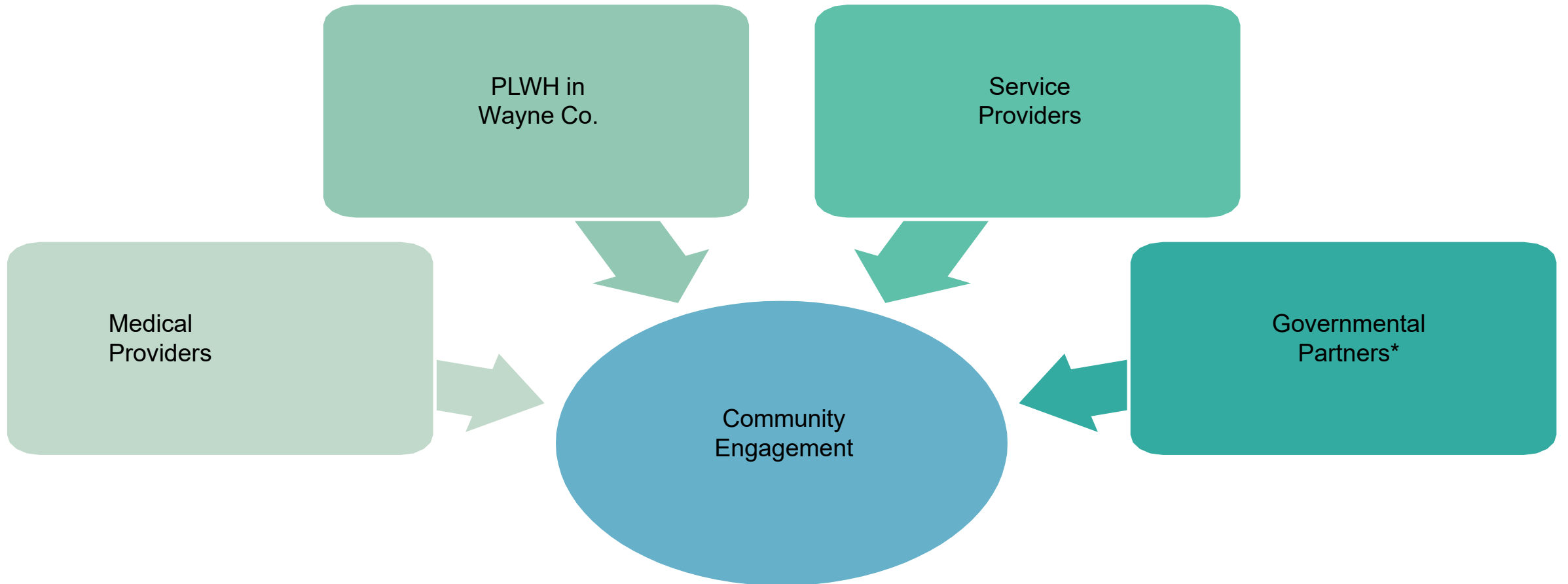


Ending the HIV
Epidemic
in Wayne Co.

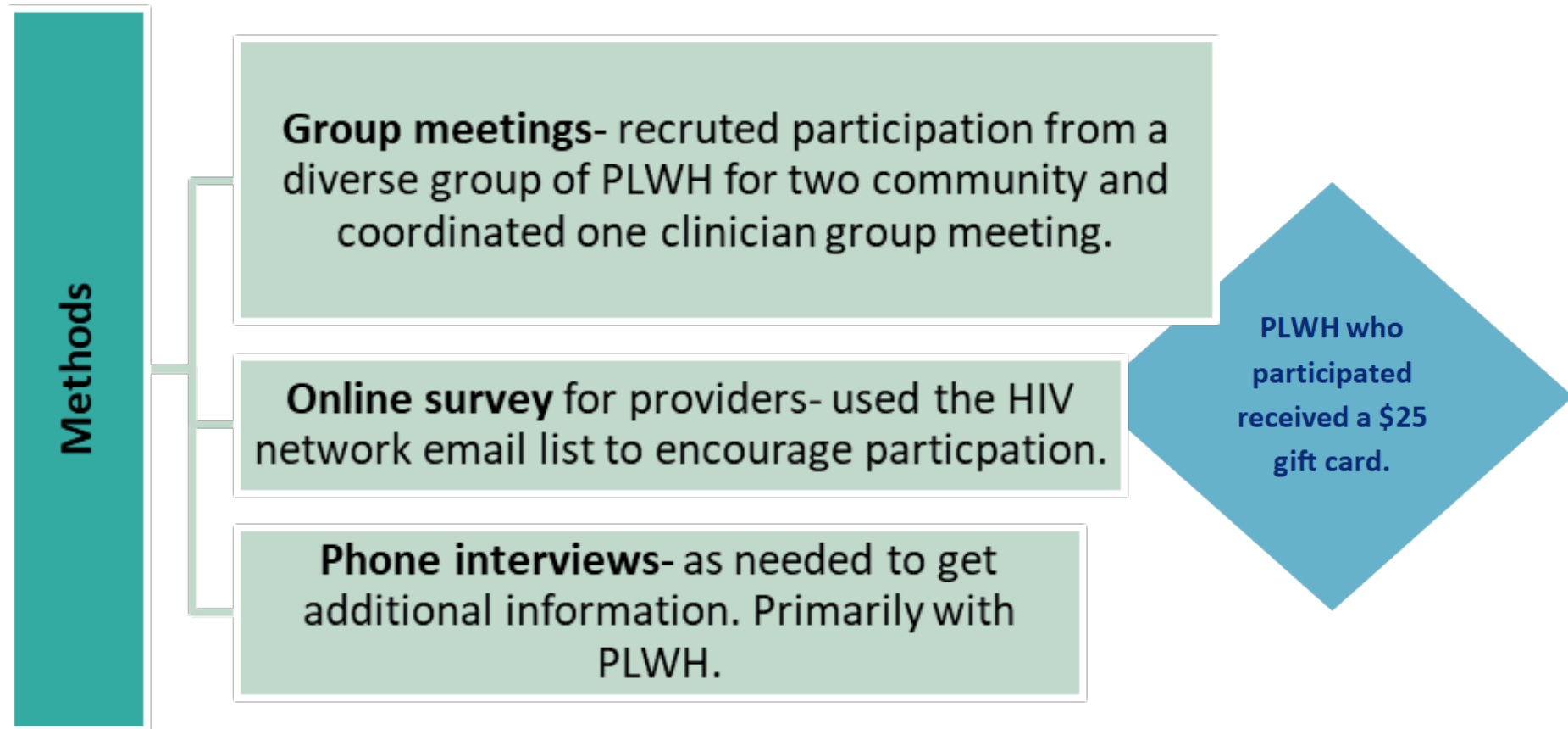
Focus Areas Identified in 2019

- Increase education and work opportunities for PLWH
- Mobilize young MSM to reduce HIV stigma, increase social support for engaging in care and literacy about HIV treatment
- Reduce HIV stigma among PLWH and in the community
- Increase engagement in care and viral suppression among Black MSM by having Black MSM develop an intervention specific to their needs
- Improve housing stability among PLWH and decrease homelessness
- Use data to identify and engage PLWH who are out of care or are not taking medications

Partners



Engagement Methods



**LEND YOUR
VOICE**

**to end
the**

HIV EPIDEMIC

**Focus group
participants
to receive a
\$25 gift card.**



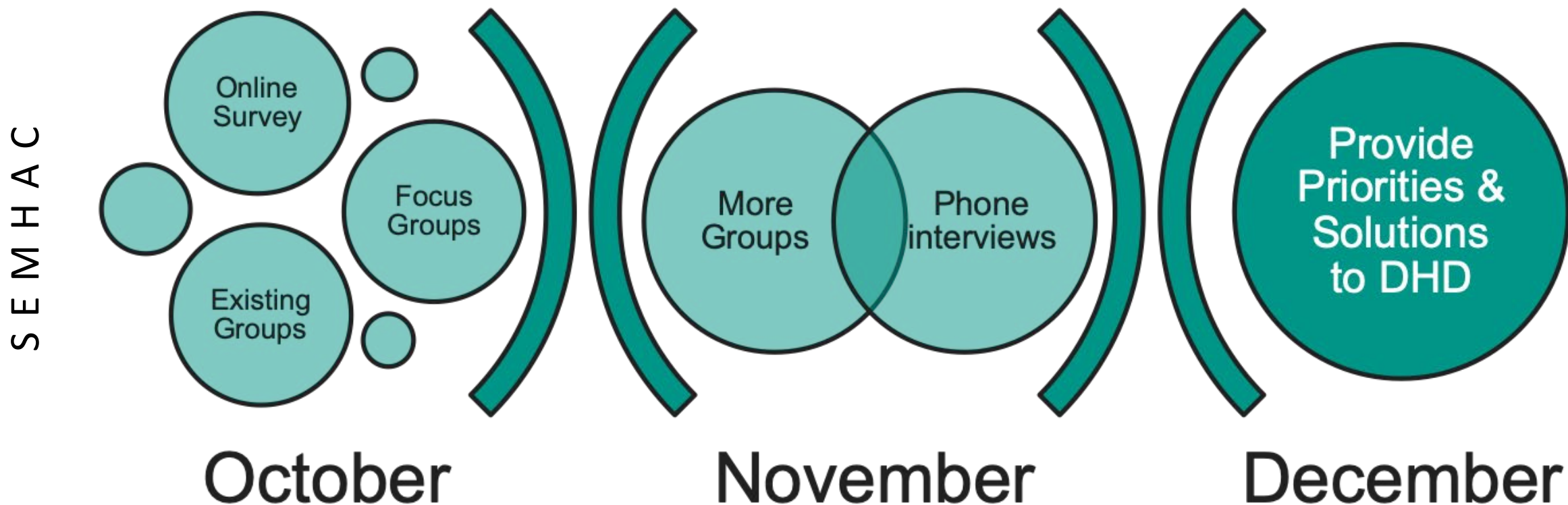
**HEALTH
Department**

The Detroit Health Department HIV/STI program is seeking Detroit and Wayne County residents who are living with HIV, and those who care about HIV, to participate in a Community Focus Group toward ending the HIV epidemic.

Each session will be held via Zoom throughout the months of October and November. Dates and times to be determined.

For more information HIV/STD Program Consultant contact Katrease Hale at tomsica@detroitmi.gov or call (313) 757-0372.

Community Engagement Timeline



Process

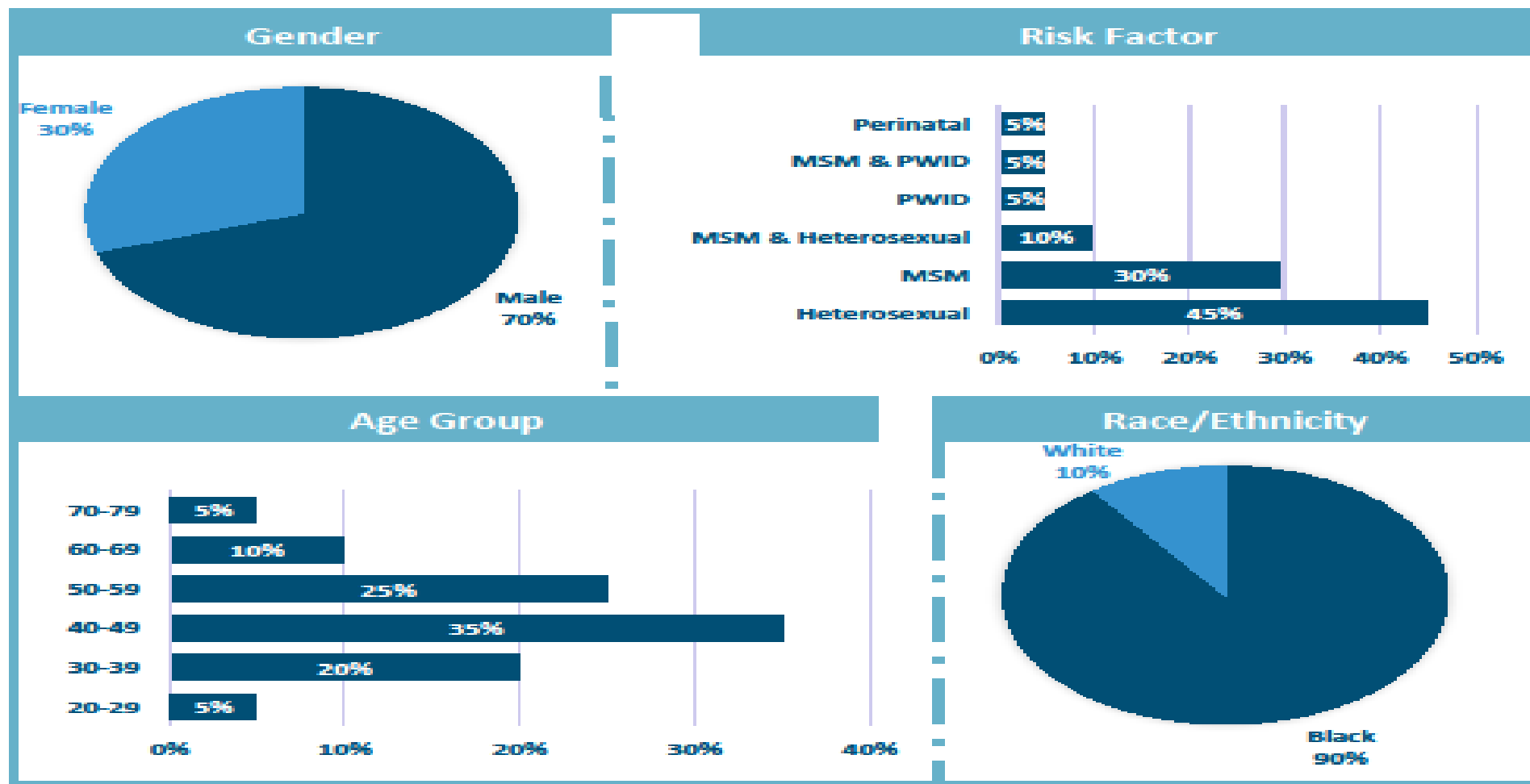
PLWH

- Interviews
- Group Discussions

Providers

- On-line Survey
- Community Conversation

Twenty PLWH participated in the one-on-one interviews between October 1, 2020 and December 15, 2020. Below is a summary of the demographics of participants.



Summary 1:1 - Interviews

FOCUS Area Options	Votes
Increase education and work opportunities	9
Mobilize young MSM	0
Reduce Stigma	4
BMSM lead an intervention	1
Improve housing	1
Use data to support those who are out of care or not taking meds	5

Summary - Community Conversations

FOCUS Area Options	Votes
Increase education and work opportunities	1
Mobilize young MSM	0
Reduce Stigma	0
BMSM lead an intervention	2
Improve housing	0
Use data to support those who are out of care or not taking meds	2

Summary – Clinician Community Conversation

FOCUS Area Options	Votes
Increase education and work opportunities	4
Mobilize young MSM	0
Reduce Stigma	1
BMSM lead an intervention	0
Improve housing	3
Use data to support those who are out of care or not taking meds	2

Engagement Results



Education and Work

30% of individuals who participated in community engagement activities identified *Education and Work* as the top priority

Prioritization

- The table below shows how the remaining areas were prioritized.

Priority Level	Focus Area
Second Priority (19%)	Use data to support those who are out of care or not taking medication
Third Priority (17%)	Improve housing
Fourth Priority (16%)	Reduce stigma
Fifth Priority (13%)	Mobilize young MSM
Sixth Priority (6%)	BMSM lead an intervention

Prioritized Focus Area

- ... you need to be educated in order to get a job. PLWH interview
- People sit on SEMHAC for years, people like me...I know that I can help in some way, but how? How can you help that PLWH to work? Working can be beneficial for them.
- I would like to see more education and work opportunities. I don't see a lot of PLWH working in the field. Community Conversation participant. Community Conversation participant
- Because getting back into care and having education is key. PLWH interview
- ... giving people an easy way to find success is a good thing. PLWH interview
- Because the first thing you asked me was how to combat this and I thought that PLWH need to be put in position to do this. When I have disclosed my status to someone who is struggling that helps them. PLWH interview

Prioritized Focus Area Continued...

- ...until there are structural changes where people have a place to lay their head at night and people can become economically independent, we can have all the support groups in the world but I don't see things happening or changing. Clinician Community Conversation
- More people in our situation that understand it better should be in the field. I have seen people doing this for just money or shouldn't work in this field, these people are making things worse than they are and they don't understand. PLWH interview
- For education/work opportunities, provide funding to agencies to promote collaboration between workforce development centers and CBOs/clinics, offer CHW training to patients/staff/volunteers living with HIV. Provider Survey respondent
- I just want to say from my personal experience, I have found it very hard to find a job. I'm on CAB and I hold various positions at SEMHAC and have taken everything the state offers since 2009 but because I don't have the paperwork but have the experience and I haven't been able to gain employment. Community Conversation participant
- Recently I really feel this pervasive sense of lack of hope, I have no future so what the hell. There is no sense of what would you do if you had an opportunity. There is not this sense of "future thinking". To me, education and work opportunities are how you build future thinking. It really comes back to systemic poverty, most of my patients are living in generational poverty. Unless you can lift people out of systemic poverty, I don't see how you can change the overall situation. Clinician Community Conversation

DHD's Response to Community Prioritization

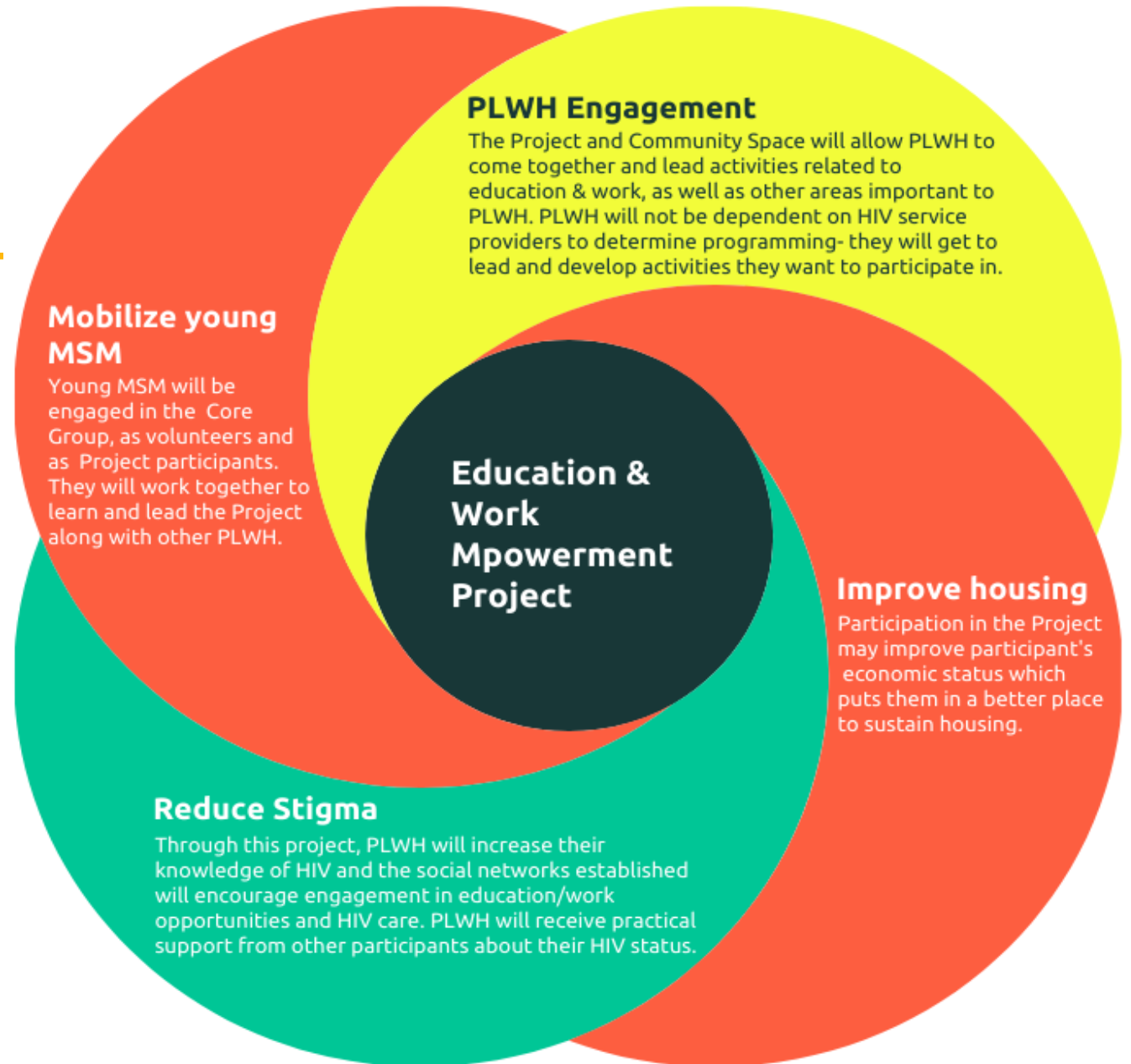
- DHD released an RFP to Ryan White Providers for an Mpowerment project focused on improving Education and Work opportunities for people living with HIV
- The program was awarded the contract and began planning/implementation in July 2021

Mpowerment

- *The Education & Work Mpowerment Project* will:
 - increase education and work opportunities for PLWH in Wayne County using a community-building
 - Will be a multi-level approach that empowers PLWH to access training and support to further their education and careers while building community and destigmatizing HIV.

Impact

- The proposed *Education and Work Mpowerment Project* will impact other areas due to the structure of the Project



Questions????

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