

# **LADIES OF DIVERSITY PROJECT (LODi) PROYECTO DIVERSIDAD DE MUJERES (DiMu)**

**LODi/DiMu: Peers helping clients**



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## WHO ARE LODi/DiMu?

LODi/DiMu is a Special Project of National project that was funded to:

- Enhances access and retention to Quality HIV Medical Care for Women of Color



Our target population-  
homeless HIV-positive  
women of color



## WHO CAN ENROLL IN LODi/DiMu?

- Latinas and African American Women:
  - Sporadic Care- Not consistently received services.
  - Lost to Care- No longer receiving HIV-medical services
  - Newly diagnosed- No current history of HIV clinical care
  - New to Care- Prior diagnosis but no current HIV medical care



Guest at our High Tea Party



# GENERAL FACTS ABOUT LODi/DiMu

- JWCH is the only demonstration site in California funded to deliver this SPNS project.
- Five-year HRSA grant funded Special Project of National Significance (SPNS)
- LODi/DiMu is designed as a evaluation and monitoring research study that provides supportive services





# LODi/DiMu AS AN EVALUATION AND MONITORING STUDY

- Research Study
  - Our recruitment goal is 165 Latinas and African American Women
    - Collect client data over 18-months conducting interviews at three month intervals.
- HRSA is interested in:
  - 1) Why do women fall out of care?
  - 2) What are the multiple factors that contribute to women not receiving care?



# LODi/DiMu AS AN EVALUATION AND MONITORING STUDY cont'd

- Supportive Service
- Work closely with clients and with their psychosocial HIV case management to enhance their quality of HIV care.



# RESEARCH QUESTIONS

As a demonstration site, we will evaluate:

- Changes in HIV-related risk behaviors
- Factors associated with changes in HIV-related risk behaviors
- Whether participants access targeted referrals
- Factors associated with reported access of targeted referrals
- Experiences of the agency conducting this evaluation project



# WHAT MAKES LODi/DiMu DIFFERENT?

- Building relationships that involve setting goals that are client centered to enhance a client's quality of HIV medical care
- Innovative outreach and aggressive follow-up
- Incentives for enrolling into the project and for completing follow-ups



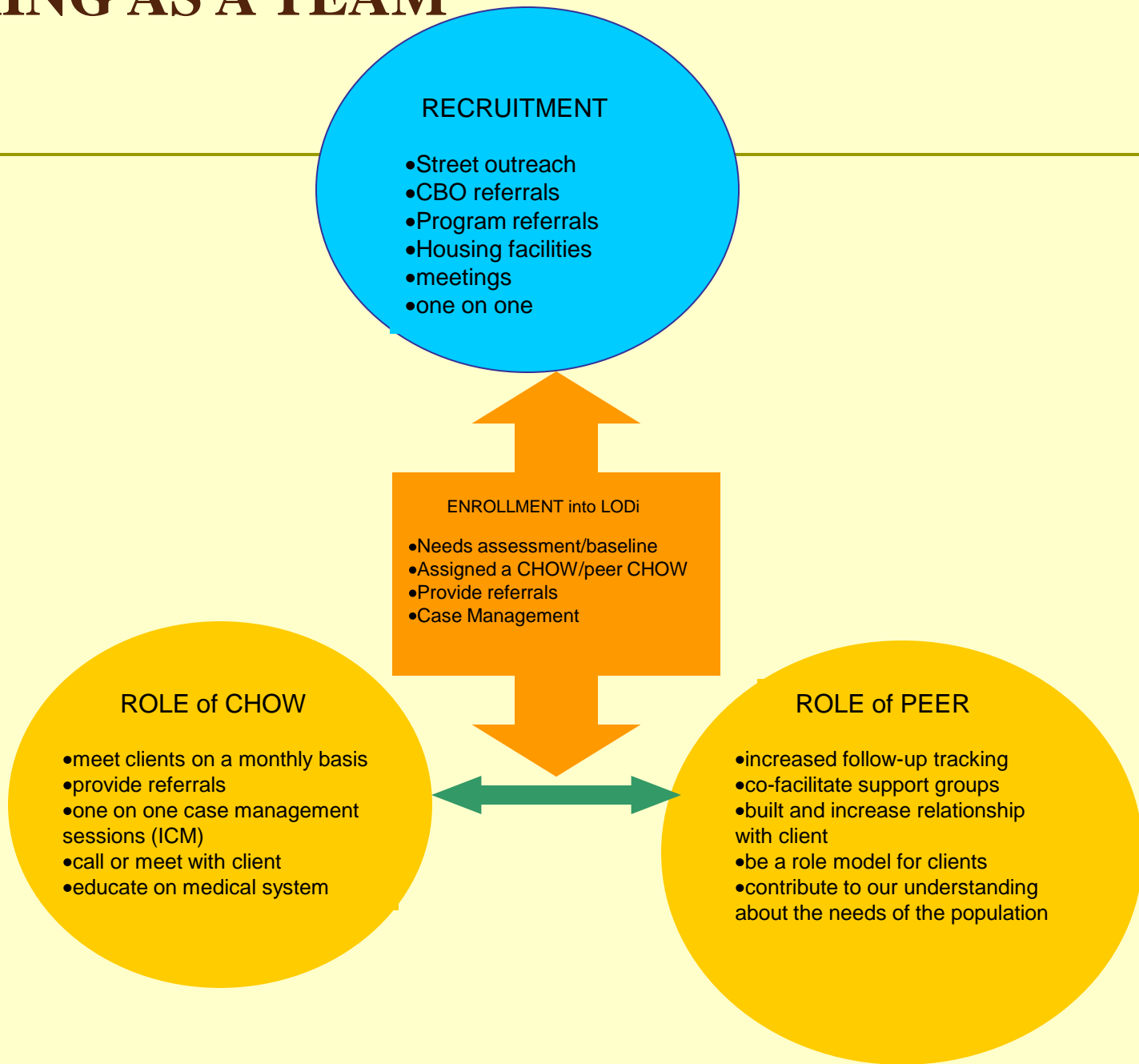
# WHAT MAKES LODi/DiMu DIFFERENT? cont'd

We are mobile!

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# WORKING AS A TEAM





# LODi/DiMu PEER CHOWS

Peer CHOWs must qualify with specific criteria:

- Be culturally congruent with our target population
- Be comfortable with sharing their HIV status
- Ready to be a role model to clients
- Have successfully completed any substance abuse programs, if applicable
- Be available to volunteer for at least 16 hours a week and committee for at least 3 months



# PEER CHOWS TRAINING

Once screened for qualification, peer CHOWs attend a 7 session training:

- SESSION 1: HOW TO TEACH BASIC HIV/AIDS INFORMATION
- SESSION 2: COMPONENTS OF SUCCESSFUL INTERVENTIONS AND THEORY OF BEHAVIOR CHANGE
- SESSION 3: TYPES OF BIRTH CONTROL
- SESSION 4: ALTERNATIVE SEX AND HIV TESTING
- SESSION 5: THE EFFECTS OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL
- SESSION 6: EDUCATING MY PEERS: UNDERSTANDING MY ROLE
- SESSION 7: BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES AND GROUP LEADERHIP
- SESSION 8: FOLLOW UP TRAINING: TEACHING METHODS AND EFFECTIVE PUBLIC SPEAKING (Optional)



# ENGAGEMENT

- Setting goals and accomplishing them.
- Being accepted, and providing a form of stability.
- Medical adherence as a social part of their life.
- Support groups, events, and “feel-good”.
- “Have something to live for- something bigger than themselves”.



# HOLIDAY PARTIES

PHOTO

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# BEAUTY DAY

PHOTO

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# PINK HAT HIGH TEA PARTY

PHOTOS

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# SUPPORT GROUPS

PHOTO

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...done point parter*



# EXPERIENCES AND STORIES FROM OUR PEER CHOWS



# LODi/DiMu TEAM

- Principal Investigator- Sergio Aviña
- Program Manager- Dr. Tina Henderson
- Evaluator- Christopher Hucks-Ortiz
- Data Entry- Mark Romero
- Community Health Outreach Workers/Promotoras

–Sandra Valdivia- (213) 241-9679

–Brenda Diaz- (213) 239-4940

–Magali Ferrer- (213) 221-9396

- Outreach Workers:

\*Thelma James    \*Lawanda Gresham

\*Sandrine Lewis

- Peer CHOWs

– Rosaria, Sonseeahray, Maria, Victoria



# ONLINE

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**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**



**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**



