

**Alabama Department of Public Health  
Alabama Emergency Response Technology (ALERT)  
Health Alert Network (HAN)**

**June 20, 2023**

**Change in HIV and related Medical Services in Montgomery, Selma, Dothan, and surrounding rural Counties.**

**The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), through its Office of HIV Prevention and Care, (OHPC) would like to inform healthcare providers in the East Central, Southeastern, and Southwestern Public Health Districts of a change in the service provider for HIV and related medical services in these regions.**

**Five Horizons Health Services, Inc (FHHS)**, a nonprofit organization, is now serving Montgomery, Dothan, Selma, and the surrounding rural counties. Founded in 1988, the agency has and continues to provide a range of HIV-related services to West Central Alabama and East Central Mississippi. The *Five* in Five Horizons refers to the agency's five pillars of care: medical care, prevention & education, supportive services, research, and advocacy.

**What Providers Should Know**

- November 18, 2022, **FHHS, Inc.** became responsible for patient services of the former Medical Advocacy & Outreach (MAO). See [Five Horizons -MAO -Services Transfer Letter.pdf](#)
- Medical services include a comprehensive approach to sexual health and well-being; treatment for HIV and STIs (sexually transmitted infections); as well as the provision of **PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis)** offered in person or virtually. PrEP is routinely taking prescription medicine *before* exposure to HIV to help reduce chances of getting it.
- The CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) recommends that ALL sexually active adults and adolescents be informed about PrEP for prevention of HIV. PrEP doesn't protect against other STIs (sexually transmitted infections); however, protection is enhanced with the use of condoms and other health protection practices. See <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/risk/prep/index.html>
- The **FHHS** also offers Supportive services include medical and non-medical case management, housing, transportation, food vouchers, and behavioral health.
- Prevention education and outreach is available to community members throughout the service area on an individual basis, for groups and events, as needed.
- The **FHHS** would enjoy the opportunity to discuss formal referral processes with new and former MAO partners. We believe a holistic approach is required in collaboration with specialty medical services and partner agencies throughout the service region to meet the comprehensive needs of our patients.
- The **FHHS** seeks to engage and support communities served, those disproportionately impacted by HIV and HIV-related stigma, by consistently and effectively employing staffing competency and expertise in the field of HIV treatment, prevention, and care. See

[https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/hiv/assets/hiv\\_providerclinics.pdf](https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/hiv/assets/hiv_providerclinics.pdf)

**Information for healthcare providers**

For Five Horizons Services questions or referral requests, contact: [bkirkpatrick@fivehorizons.org](mailto:bkirkpatrick@fivehorizons.org).