

AIDS Library

The AIDS Library has free computer access, many books, journals, movies and other resources about HIV and other issues. There are librarians on hand to help you with your questions. There are limited hours, so call or check the website.

215-985-4851

www.aidslibrary.org

1233 Locust Street #2, Philadelphia

Positive Committee

The Positive Committee is a group of people living with HIV who help plan the Ryan White services for the Philadelphia region. At meetings, the group discusses issues and questions about services, receives information from local experts, and share resources and support. Lunch and transportation reimbursement are provided.

Positive Committee meets on the second Monday of each month from 12:00 to 2:00pm, except for holidays. If you are interested in attending a meeting call to reserve your spot at least three days before the meeting.

(215) 574-6760

www.hivphilly.org

340 N. 12th Street, Suite 203,
Philadelphia

Photo credits: front cover photos by Chris Zerbes
www.flickr.com/photos/chriszerbes/

Medications

Pennsylvania SPBP

(800) 922-9384

New Jersey ADDP

(877) 613-4533

Health Information Helpline

Information on Ryan White
services and HIV testing
(215) 985-2437

Philadelphia Health Centers

[www.phila.gov/health/
ambulatoryhealth](http://www.phila.gov/health/ambulatoryhealth)

PA Community Health Centers

[www.healthfederation.org/
chcs/](http://www.healthfederation.org/chcs/)

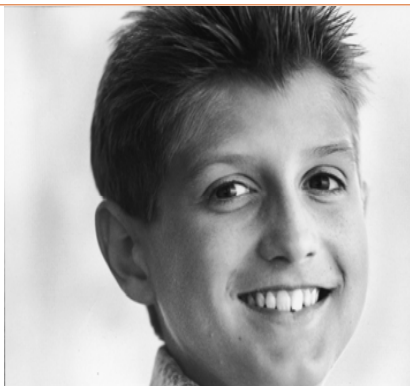
NJ Community Health Centers

www.njpca.org/FQHC/

The
Positive
Committee



What help is
there for people
living with HIV?



What is the Ryan White Program?

This federal government program provides health care and medications to people with HIV/AIDS who are uninsured and under-insured. In the Philadelphia area there are many doctors and organizations providing medical care and other help to people living with HIV.

The Ryan White program began in 1991 and is named after a teenage boy (photo above) who was discriminated against because of his HIV status..

Who is eligible for Ryan White services?

Anyone living with HIV/AIDS in the Philadelphia region who meets income requirements is eligible for the Ryan White services. The maximum income for an individual is \$58,850.

What is the Ryan White eligibility card? How do I get one?

Everyone must be "certified" as eligible for Ryan White services every six months. Proof of residency, income, HIV status, insurance, and identification must be verified every six months. You can be certified at your HIV medical provider, a case manager or any other Ryan White organization.

Do I need to have health insurance?

You do not need to have insurance to get HIV healthcare or medications. The Ryan White program is for people with no health insurance or whose health insurance doesn't cover all the services they need.

Do I need a case manager?

A case manager can be very helpful for getting health insurance and other benefits. He/she can also help you understand and deal with the health care system. A referral from a case manager is needed to get some services. You can get assigned a case manager by calling the Health Information Helpline at 215-985-2437

Can I go to a case manager or doctor in another town? Can I change my doctor?

You can use Ryan White services anywhere in the 9 county Philadelphia region, regardless of where you live. You can also change doctors or case managers if you need to; however, you must go to doctors and other providers covered by your insurance, if you have insurance. Talk to your case manager or call the Health Information Helpline at 215-985-2437 to get help finding services.

Can I get dental care?

There are a number of places to receive low or no cost dental care. A case manager can help you get an appointment with one of the Ryan White dental providers. Residents of Philadelphia can also access dental care services at the Philadelphia City Health Centers and other community health centers.

What if I have a problem getting services or I have a conflict with a provider?

All Ryan White clients have a right to make a formal grievance if they have a problem or conflict with a provider. Call 215-985-2437 to get some help resolving the conflict and to make a formal report, if necessary.

Can I get help with transportation?

You can also get help with transportation to your doctor and some other services if you are eligible for Ryan White services.. Medicaid also provides transportation to eligible clients.

Can I get help with food and utilities?

Food pantries, food vouchers, meal delivery, and assistance with utility bills and rent are available for eligible individuals. Each program has its own rules and restrictions. To apply for assistance, ask your case manager. Or call the Health Information Helpline at 215-985-2437 for more information.

Can I get help paying for my medications?

There is help to pay for your medications through a program called ADAP. Many people get their HIV medications for free or for very little cost. SPBP, or Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program, is the version of the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) in Pennsylvania. The program covers HIV-related medications, some mental health medications and some other types of drugs for people living with HIV who meet the insurance and income eligibilities. ADAP will cover co-pays and other out of pocket costs for medications on the program's list of approved drugs for those who have private insurance. If you have Medicaid or Medical Assistance, you are not eligible for ADAP coverage in PA or NJ.

To apply for SPBP in Pennsylvania, contact your case manager or call (800) 922-9384.

To access ADDP in New Jersey, contact your case manager or call (877) 613-4533.