



**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS DIVISION**

**Health Care Services Section**

115 S Andrews Avenue, Room A300 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-5390 • FAX 954-357-5897

**SUPPORT SERVICES NETWORK  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 @ 2:30pm  
**Location:** Ryan White Part A Program Office  
115 S. Andrews Ave., GC-320  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

**Facilitator:** Clinical Quality Management Staff  
quality@brhpc.org  
(954) 561-9681 ext. 1250

**PROVIDERS PRESENT**

Patrick Saint Fleur; AHF  
Marlena Solomon; AHF  
Roseline Lebissiere; BCFHC  
Glynette Roberts; BCFHC  
Karen Whyte; Broward House  
Natasha Markman; BRHPC  
Edgar Mojica; Care Resource  
Rafael Jimenez; Care Resource  
Amanda Sorge; Legal Aid  
Kara Schickowski; Legal Aid  
Edna Ferguson-Walker; Broward Health  
Amy Pont; Memorial  
Guerline Verger; Memorial  
Brad Barnes; Poverello

**CLINICAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT  
(CQM) SUPPORT STAFF**

Debbie Cestaro-Seifer  
Marcus Guice

**PART A RECIPIENT STAFF**

Edith Garcia  
Teisha Fender

**PROVIDERS ABSENT**

Latinos Salud

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 p.m.

**II. Welcome/Introductions**

CQM Staff welcomed everyone and individual introductions were made.

**III. Activity: QI IQ Survey Completion**

**IV.** Members filled out a short paper assessment that asked foundational questions about their experience and comfort with Quality Improvement.

## **V. Case Study: Legal Aid**

*(The client background and details of the case study can be found attached to the meeting packet.)* The presentation was made by Amanda Sorge of Coast to Coast Legal Aid. She prefaced the presentation with noting that medical treatment is the most important part of cases of this nature and Ryan White is the only source of funding in a few cases. It was also affirmed that procurement of medical records is highly beneficial for clients engaging in social security cases. She notes that the legal team's access to client medical records affects their ability to provide advice to the client. A member of the support services reinforced this and highlighted that policies and staff reference lists should always be kept up to date, especially in listing new staff hires during onboarding. It is important to keep lines of communication open between case managers and the legal team. Clients often need specialists who can connect clients to services that could otherwise not be utilized.

A member asked the presenter if a client is unhappy with their current legal representation, can they access services at Legal Aid? Amanda remarked that the client can come to talk with Legal Aid, however, all referred cases are not accepted. Legal Aid will, however, give advice to all clients that seek consultation. If someone already has an attorney and wants Legal Aid to represent them, they will need a letter from their private attorney that says (1) their attorney is no longer representing them and (2) the client does not owe any fees.

### *Access to Care Schedule*

The Recipient staff emphasized the importance of the monthly Access to Care Schedules. This is a tool that is intended to help personnel at each agency identify key contacts for various services that clients may need. It is imperative that staff changes are communicated to the Recipient team every month to maximize the benefit of this tool in providing interagency referrals.

## **VI. Mentimeter Introduction**

Mentimeter is a tool that the CQM team is using to build interactive presentations and add questions and polls to engage and draw feedback from the network members. The audience use their smartphones, tablets, or laptops to connect to the presentation where they can give responses to the questions that the CQM team present. Results from Mentimeter breaks will be recorded in the minutes.

## **VII. Data Talk: Numbers and Drill Downs**

CQM staff gave an introductory presentation covering the mission of the CQM program in the Fort Lauderdale/Broward EMA, the aims and definition of quality improvement, and the importance of data.

## VIII. Broward EMA Continuum Care FY2017-FY2018 Data Review

The CQM staff explained that the aim for this presentation is to use the HIV Care Continuum data to assess disparities by agency and create QIPs per agency by the end of the Fiscal Year. Four nationally identified disparate populations—African American & Latina Women, MSM of Color, Youth (age 13-24), and Transgender people, was the focus of the data drilldown. According to the drill down that the CQM staff conducted prior to the meeting, the only Broward Part A EMA population considered to be disparate is Youth (18-28 years old). Systemwide, the EMA experienced increases in viral load suppression in the following subpopulations: Black/African American and Latina Women, MSM of Color, and Youth. There was a decrease in viral load suppression among transgender people. MSM of color and the Transgender subpopulations experienced decreases in retention in care while Black/African American & Latina Women and Youth experienced an increase. Trends from the agencies differed and were fairly heterogenous.

## IX. Mentimeter Break

Question: What were some of the notable or surprising trends that were apparent in the data presented?

Answers:

- “Decrease in Transgender care”
- “Some agencies had much higher viral suppression than others, we should look into what they are doing”
- “The retention to care amongst the youth”
- “The retention in care and VL suppression numbers are close (identical)”
- “Lower than expected outcomes”
- “The data presented on viral load suppression does not reflect what shows on my case load”
- “For the most part, all agencies saw a similar trend in decreases of VL suppression and retention in care”
- “Data seem restricted although it may be representative of a group. (e.g. some data seem to have been omitted).”

*Discussion:*

Several of the Network members remarked that retention to care, in our system, is susceptible to be affected by the Test and Treat population who only have a temporary certification in the Ryan White program, if eligibility is not established within the initial 30-day window. The CQM staff also remarked that national trends show retention being higher than viral load suppression as viral suppression has been statistically observed to be a dependent variable to retention in care. Additionally, additional confounds could attribute to lower retention rates, with many of the cases being people who dropped out of care. In these cases, providers

were challenged to consider the nature of the clients who drop out of care, because this can be attributed to a broken relationship or an unsuccessful attempt to form a relationship with the client. The CQM staff impressed upon the members that all agency clients should be retained in care, not just Ryan White clients. Managing the connection with the client and using communication techniques with clients that help to empower and engage individuals is critical to strengthening an agency's relationship with all of their clients.

Question: What questions do you have about the data?

- Can you compare viral load suppression and retention for people that are in case management as opposed to those who are not?
- Are data results shared with clients during each stage of the quality improvement project?
- Number of clients per category: N=
- When looking at retention data for an agency, does the data include clients who are successfully linked to another agency?
- Should we be looking at seasonal data, such as summer time, spring...since appointments and retention may be seasonal?
- Can Black African American Latina Women (BAAL) be further broken down into individual categories, such as age, ethnicity? Also knowing how many Black African American women and Latina women we are talking about would be helpful. Can we drill down these two populations by service categories?
- Can we break down data by service rather than provider since some providers have offer more than one service?
- Can you provide the primary elements you look at when you sort these data so we can clearly understand the limitations, if there are any? We need to also understand the variations, so we know the exceptions and consistencies.

**X. Announcements**

- Peer Certification Program first class completion in May/June 2019
- CQII Plus Consumer QI Training AHF & Poverello participated in May 2019
- Quality Network Training Day June 12, 2019

**XI. Evaluation**

Staff asked all Quality Network members to complete a Meeting Evaluation Survey and make suggestions for topic discussions for the September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 meeting.

**XII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

**Next Meeting Date: September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 (time TBD)**

### Support Services: Case Study

<b>Viral Load:</b>	<20 copies/mL; Undetectable																																										
<b>History of Viral Load</b>	<p>Undetected since diagnosis/start of ARVs (<i>diagnosed February 2015, started meds March 2015</i>)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">HIV 1 Viral Load</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2019/01/25</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2018/06/13</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2018/06/13</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2018/01/23</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2018/01/23</td> <td>20 NOT DETECTED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2017/07/14</td> <td>20 NOT DETECTED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2017/07/14</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2016/12/28</td> <td>20 NOT DETECTED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2016/08/19</td> <td>20 NOT DETECTED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2016/04/26</td> <td>20 NOT DETECTED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2015/09/23</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2015/06/16</td> <td>20 DETECTED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HIV 1 Viral Load</td> <td>2015/02/18</td> <td>4148</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	HIV 1 Viral Load			HIV 1 Viral Load	2019/01/25	20	HIV 1 Viral Load	2018/06/13	20	HIV 1 Viral Load	2018/06/13	20	HIV 1 Viral Load	2018/01/23	20	HIV 1 Viral Load	2018/01/23	20 NOT DETECTED	HIV 1 Viral Load	2017/07/14	20 NOT DETECTED	HIV 1 Viral Load	2017/07/14	20	HIV 1 Viral Load	2016/12/28	20 NOT DETECTED	HIV 1 Viral Load	2016/08/19	20 NOT DETECTED	HIV 1 Viral Load	2016/04/26	20 NOT DETECTED	HIV 1 Viral Load	2015/09/23	20	HIV 1 Viral Load	2015/06/16	20 DETECTED	HIV 1 Viral Load	2015/02/18	4148
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<b>Mode of Transportation:</b>	<i>unknown</i>																																										
<b>Housing Status:</b>	Temporary ( <i>staying with friends/family</i> )																																										
<b>Insurance Status:</b>	no insurance – Ryan White primary medical provider																																										
<b>Length of Time in Care:</b>	Four years: diagnosed 2015; last medical visit January ( <i>retained in care</i> )																																										
<b>Other Medical Conditions:</b>																																											
<b>Support System (Family, Friends, etc.):</b>																																											
<b>Other Barriers to Care:</b>	No income; temporary housing																																										

#### Client History:

30 year old black female; no income/temporary housing; retained in care and undetectable (active ADAP and RW medical care)

#### Client Issues:

Client applied for SSI disability and was denied. She had to stop working due to her medical problems. She is getting good support from her case manager, but we have had issues obtaining her medical records with Care Resource (unreturned messages, cannot get them after multiple phone calls/attempts). Medical records are the most important component of a disability case, and it makes it extremely difficult for us to represent client or even advise them if we can't access the records. The client is reportedly getting mental health therapy, but I cannot get any record or confirmation. She has no income source and is completely reliant on friends and family for support and housing, which is an inherently unstable situation.



### Support Services: Case Study

<b>Viral Load:</b>	<20 copies/mL; Undetectable																																																												
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<b>Mode of Transportation:</b>	<i>unknown</i>																																																												
<b>Housing Status:</b>	<i>Stable (apartment with housing subsidy)</i>																																																												
<b>Insurance Status:</b>	<i>Medicaid (approved 2018)</i>																																																												
<b>Length of Time in Care:</b>	Diagnosed 1992; documented labs and/or medical appointments since 2008; seems to be in stable medical care currently																																																												
<b>Other Medical Conditions:</b>	<i>Mental health?</i>																																																												
<b>Support System (Family, Friends, etc.):</b>	<i>Daughter is emergency contact? Reports household of 1</i>																																																												
<b>Other Barriers to Care:</b>	<i>Mental health?</i>																																																												

#### Client History:

Client came to CCLA in 2016 after losing her SSI disability case hearing in front of a judge. We represented her in an appeal to the Appeals Council. Once the case is at that level, it's very difficult to win. At that time, she did not have Medicaid or access to needed specialists (only RW). She had undiagnosed and untreated mental health issues. She reapplied for SSI and was approved in 2018, but the issues in her prior case are significant. The client had a 10<sup>th</sup> grade education, was staying with friends/family, and was in an unstable situation.

#### Client Issues:

The client's SSI case was denied because her medical records were insufficient. The records (Specialty Care Center) lacked a narrative and had basically zero information. The client needed to apply for MOPED and could not do it on her own. She needed mental health treatment and was not able to navigate the system on her own. With stronger records, she may have been approved sooner. Also, she did not come to us until she already lost at the hearing level. Once a case is lost at the hearing level, it is extremely difficult to win, and we are limited in what we can do to intervene.



## Data Talk: Numbers and Drill Downs

Debbie Cestaro-Seifer, MS, RN, NC-BC  
BRHPC Quality Consultant

Overview of the 2019-2020 Quality Improvement Program



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## RYAN WHITE PART A CLINICAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT (CQM) PLAN

Fort Lauderdale/Broward County EMA

The **mission** of the CQM program in the Fort Lauderdale/Broward County EMA is to ensure **equitable access** to a **seamless system** of high-quality comprehensive HIV services that improve health outcomes and **eliminate health disparities** for people living with HIV/AIDS in Broward County.



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## The Six Aims of Quality Improvement

The Institute of Medicine's definition further clarifies the CDC's definition by identifying **six aims for improvement**:

1. Safe
2. Effective
3. Patient-centered
4. Timely
5. Efficient
6. Equitable

Institute of Medicine. Crossing the quality chasm: A new health system for the 21st century. Washington, D.C.: National Academies of Science, 2001. Accessed on 7/7/2018 at <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/10027.html>



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## What is Quality Improvement?

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) define Quality Improvement (QI) as those activities that:

1. Improve the health of populations
2. Reduce the per capita cost of healthcare
3. Improve the patient experience

CDC. Performance Management and Quality Initiatives; 2016, accessed at <https://www.cdc.gov/ftp/pub/health/performance/index.html>  
 Institute of Healthcare Improvement. Science of Improvement: How to Improve; 2011, available at <http://www.ihi.org/resources/Pages/ImplementingContinuousQualityImprovement.aspx>




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## What is Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)?

CQI is a philosophy that encourages all healthcare team members to continuously ask themselves:

**"How are we doing?"**

**AND**

**"How can we do it better?"**

Continuous improvement begins with the development of a culture of ongoing sustainable improvement for the patient, the practice, and the population served by the practice.

Edwards PJ, et al. Maximizing your investment in EHR: Utilizing EHRs to inform continuous quality improvement. JGIM 2008;23(1):32-7.




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## Using Data and Feedback for CQI Initiatives in HIV Care

All That Data!




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## The Purpose of Using Data

To Be Better!

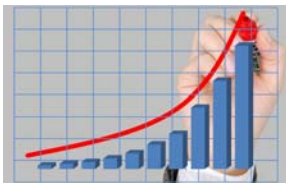


Image accessed on 6.3.2019 at <https://pixabay.com/images/search/improvement/>



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## Data is Granular Unprocessed Information



Accessed on 6.3.2019 at <https://pixabay.com/photos/pocket-watch-time-of-sand-time-3156771/>



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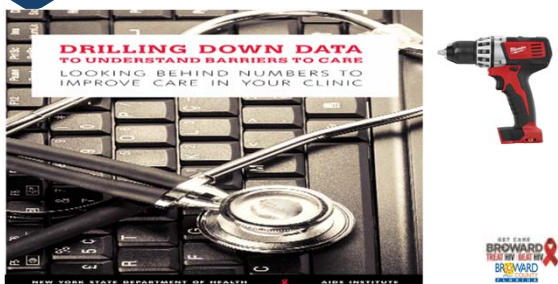
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## Drilling Down Data



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### Network Members Look at Data.....

- Utilize Data
- Work to Understand Data
- Effectively Communicate Data
- Connect Data to Mission and Goals
- Assist in Making the Data Matter to Our Agencies
- Use Data to Identify Ways for Programs and Staff to Treat Themselves

...and Make Hypotheses to Inform Quality Improvement Projects.




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### Change Ideas

"All changes do not lead to improvement, but all improvement requires change."

How to identify changes to improve care for people living with HIV (PLWH)

<http://www.IHI.org/IHI/Topics/HIV/AIDS/HIVDiseaseGeneral/Changes/>

Institute for Healthcare Improvement accessed at www.ihl.org on 7/8/2017




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### Measuring Progress

#### Measure Progress

How will we know a change is an improvement?

- Only data can tell us whether improvements are made
- Integrate measurement into the daily routine

New York State Department of Health Network, AIDS Institute, HIV/QUAL Workbook: Guide for Quality Improvement in HIV Care National Quality Center, 2006. accessed at <http://nationalqualitycenter.org/resources/hivqual-workbook-guide-for-quality-improvement-in-hiv-care.pdf>




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## FY 2019 Broward EMA Quality Network Plan

**AIM:** The AIM of the Broward EMA is to use our HIV Care Continuum data for each funded agency to identify disparities and create Quality Improvement Projects (QIPs) for 2019-2020.

**The Plan:**

- DATA DRILL DOWN for entire Broward EMA (all 13 agencies - 24 month range)
- Drill down data by agency to assess presence of disparities (BAAL, YOUTH, MSM, TRANS).
- Network members will discuss and ask questions about the data and think of possible reasons for disparities so that hypotheses can inform quality improvement projects



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## Key Takeaways

- **Quality Improvement is about learning**, measuring progress, and sustaining improvements through continuous cycles of changes
- **Focus on the Triple Aim "end goal"** helps healthcare team members avoid complacency and creates a culture of continuous improvement to ultimately support person-centered HIV treatment and care
- **Each QI goal is connected to the aim** of improving the health of PLWH, reducing the cost of delivering primary and comprehensive HIV care (achieving more with less), and improving patient experience



<https://pixabay.com>



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## Change Starts Here



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# FY17 & 18 Disparity Group Drill Down

Support Services Network

June 4, 2019

# Definitions

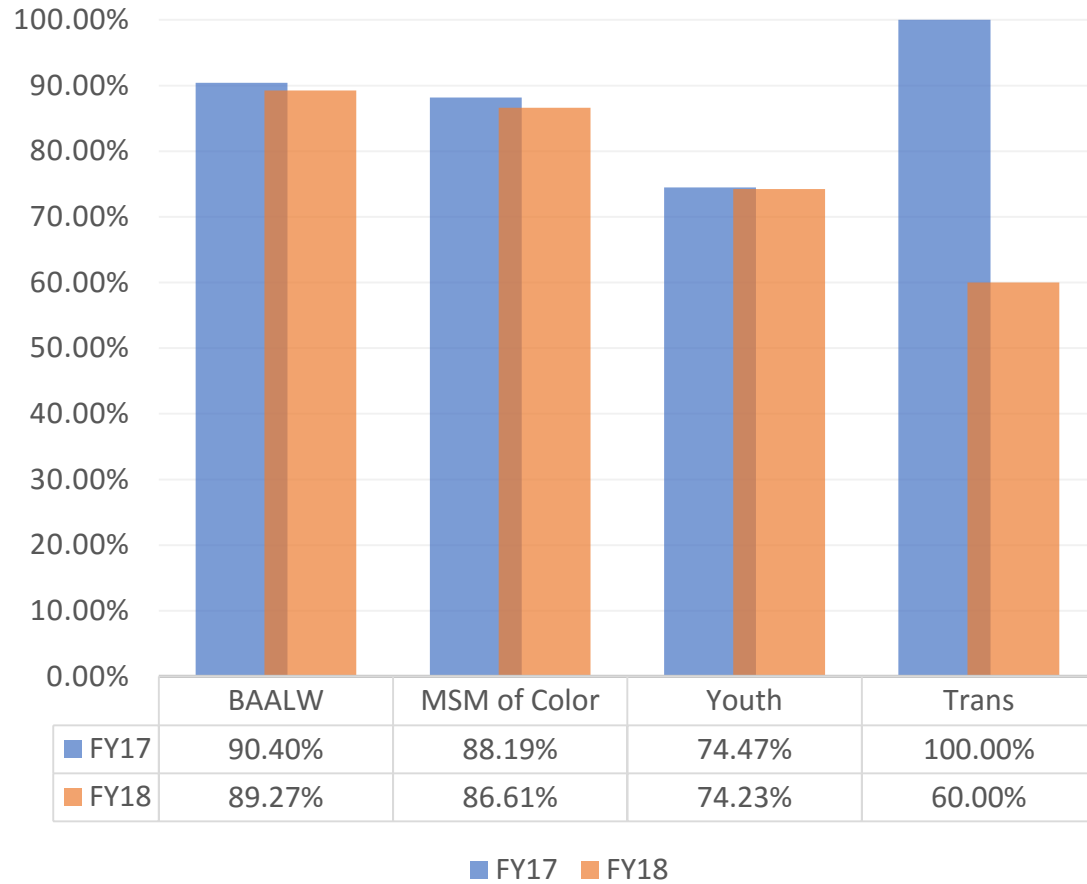
**Retention in Care:** HIV+ clients who had two or more medical care services at least three months apart in the reporting period.

**Virally Suppressed:** HIV+ clients with most recent viral load less than 200 copies/mL, as of end of the reporting period.

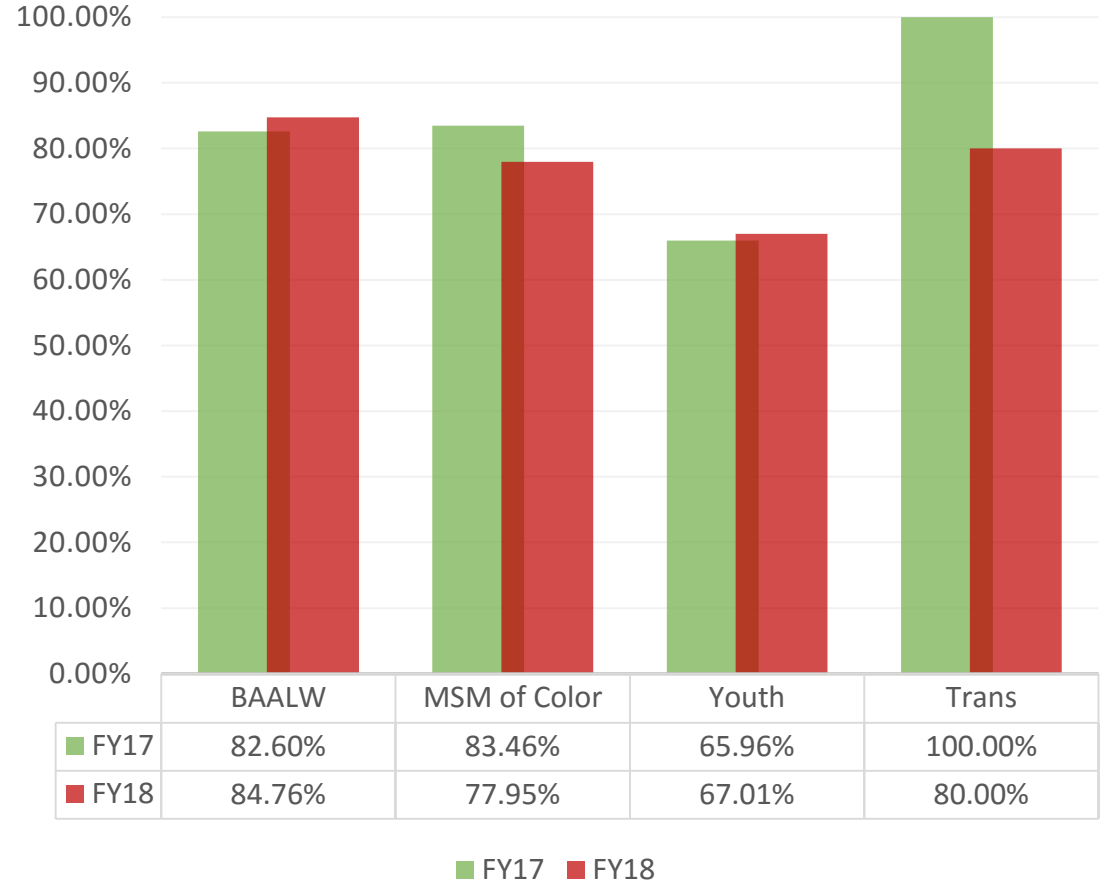
*Medical Care Service* = Medical Care Appointment, Viral Load or CD4 Count Test

# Alpha

## Retention in Care



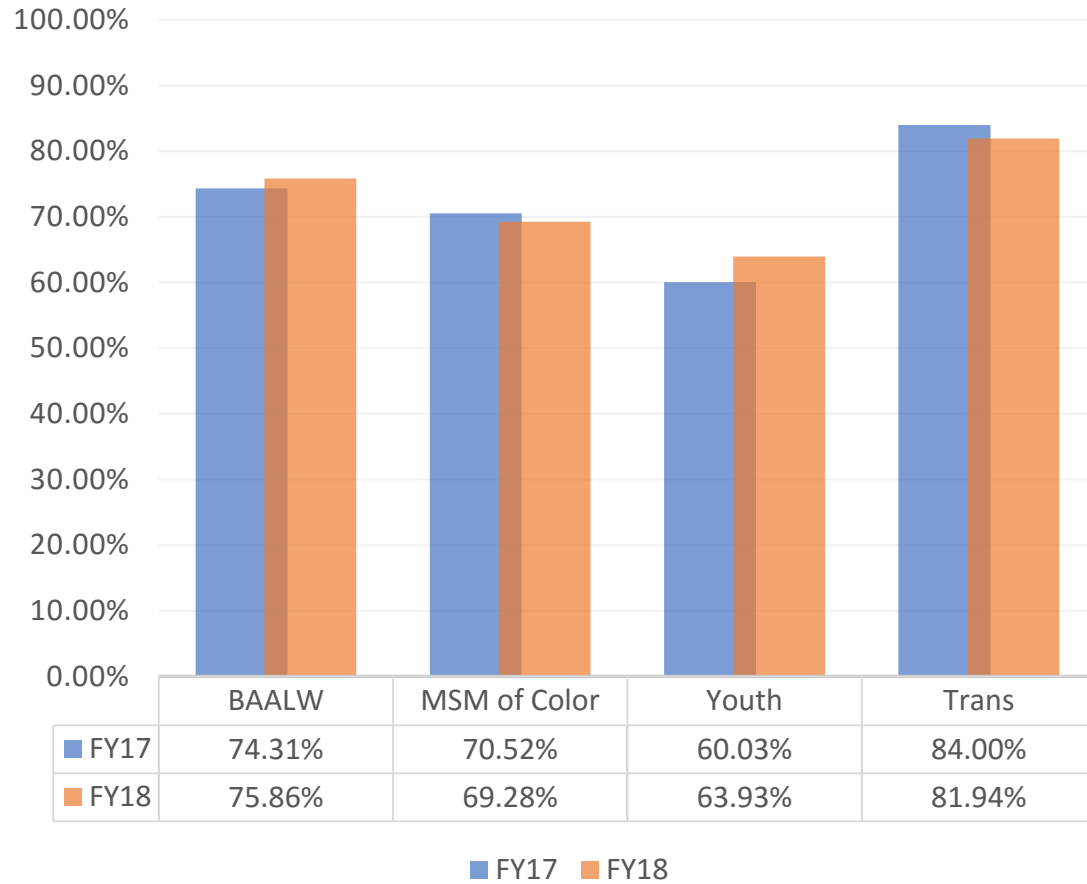
## Viral Load Suppression



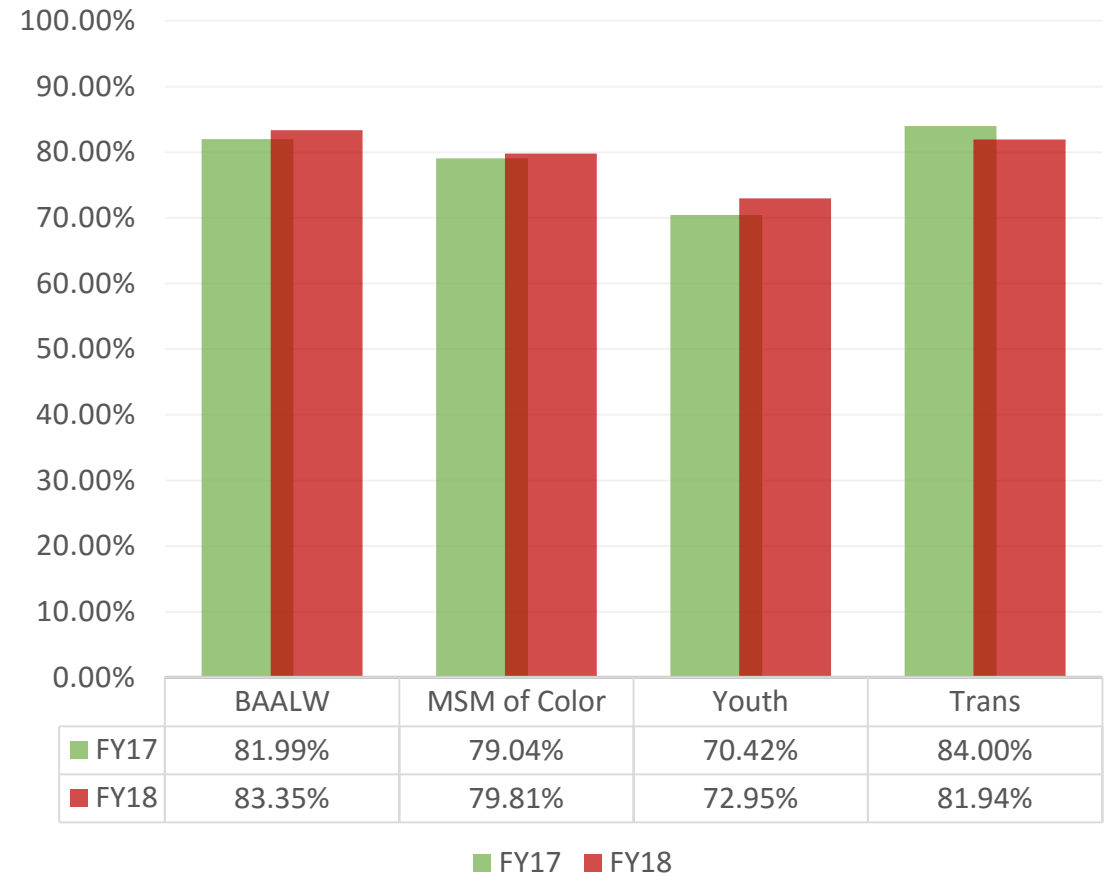


# Gamma

## Retention in Care

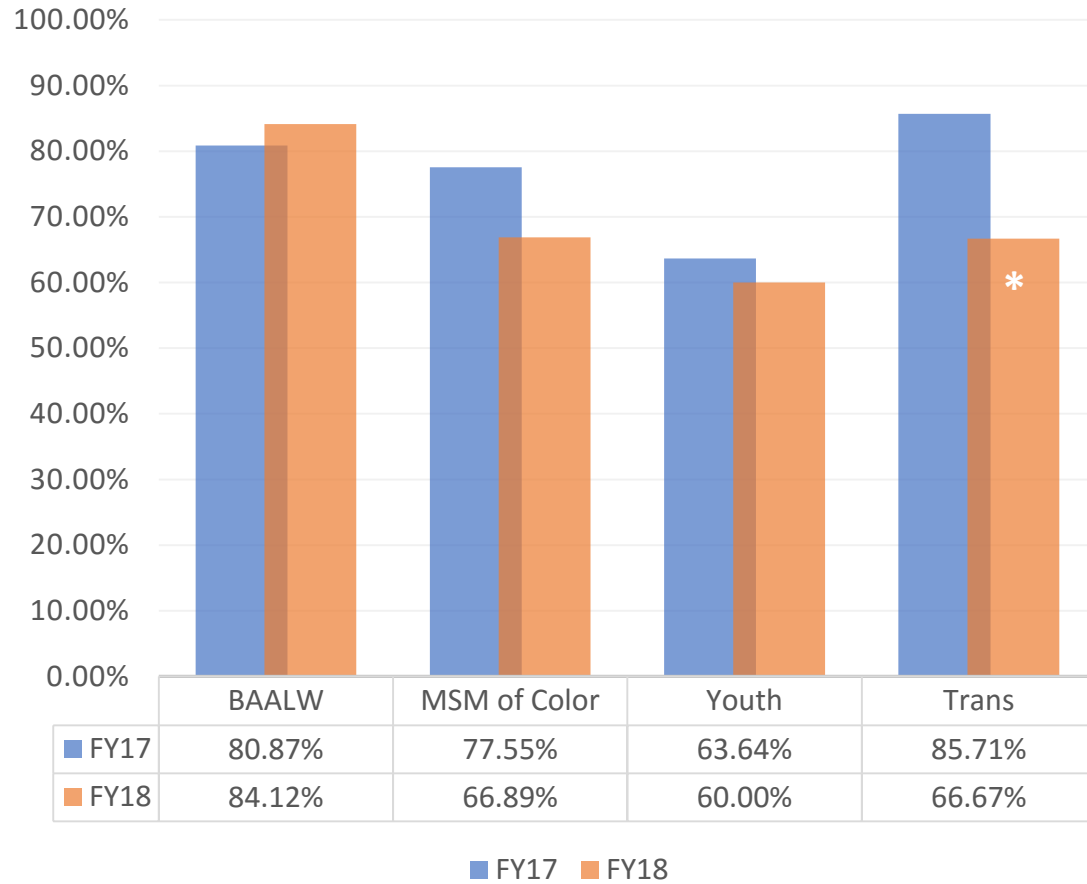


## Viral Load Suppression

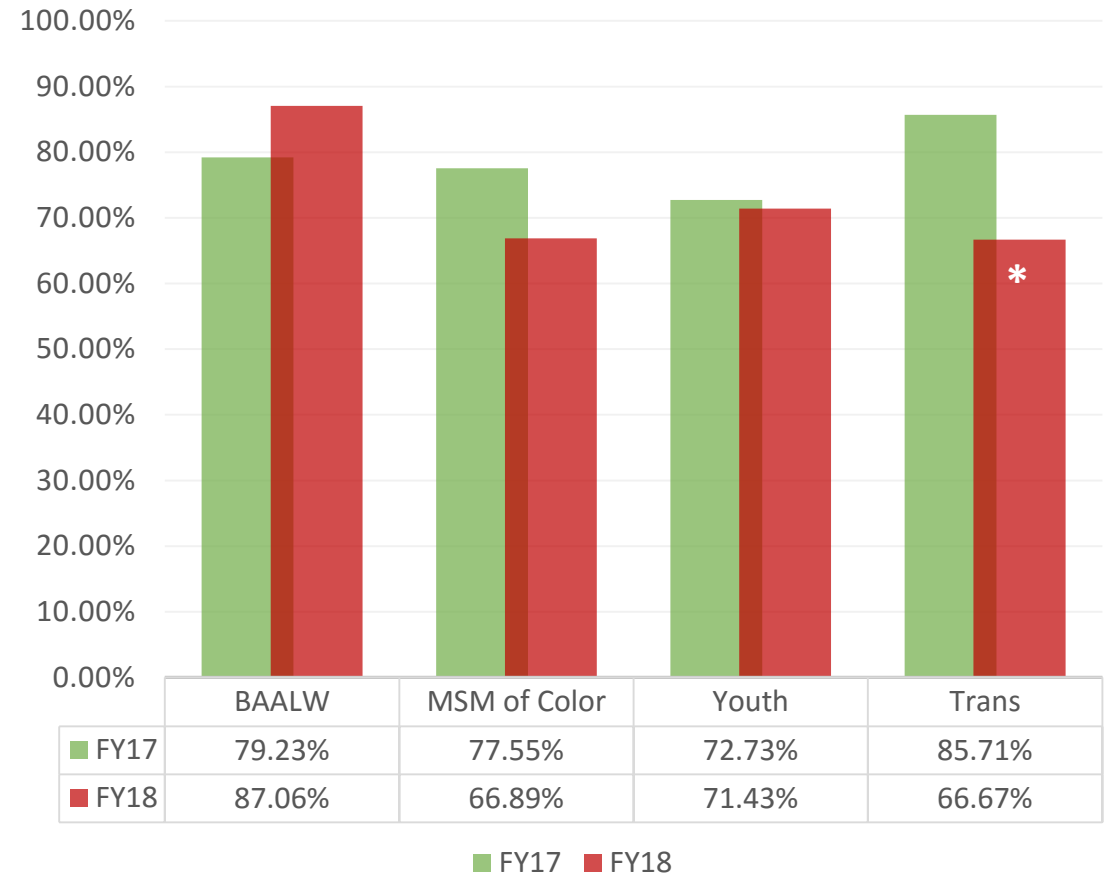


# Delta

## Retention in Care



## Viral Load Suppression

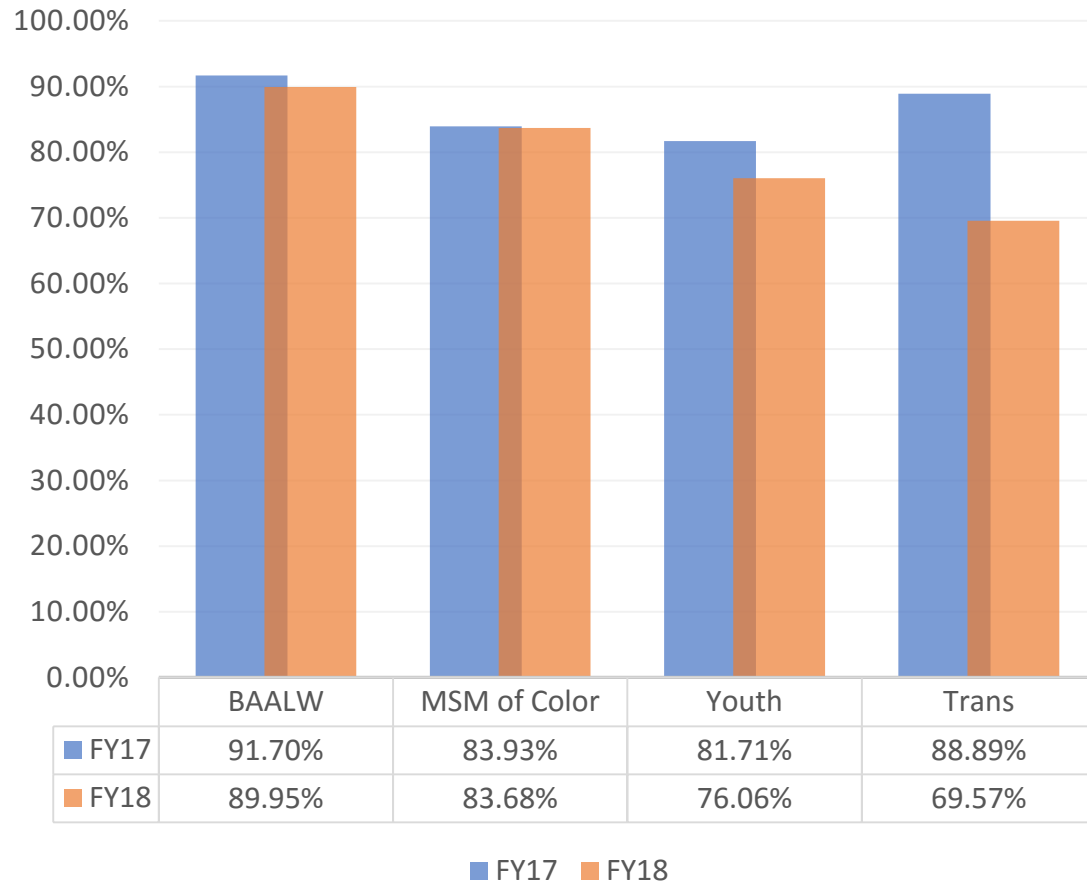


\* Denotes client population size fewer than n=20

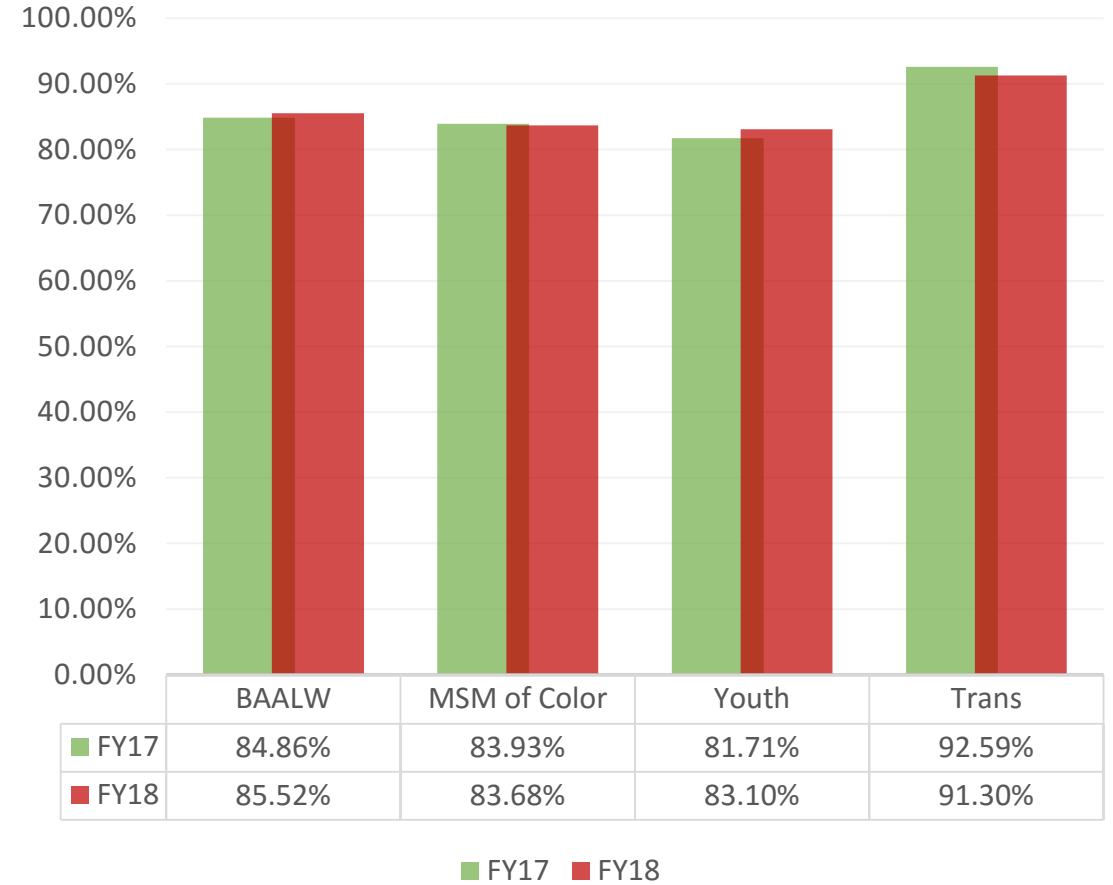
Source: Provide Enterprise, Care Continuum Report FY17; FY18

# Epsilon

## Retention in Care

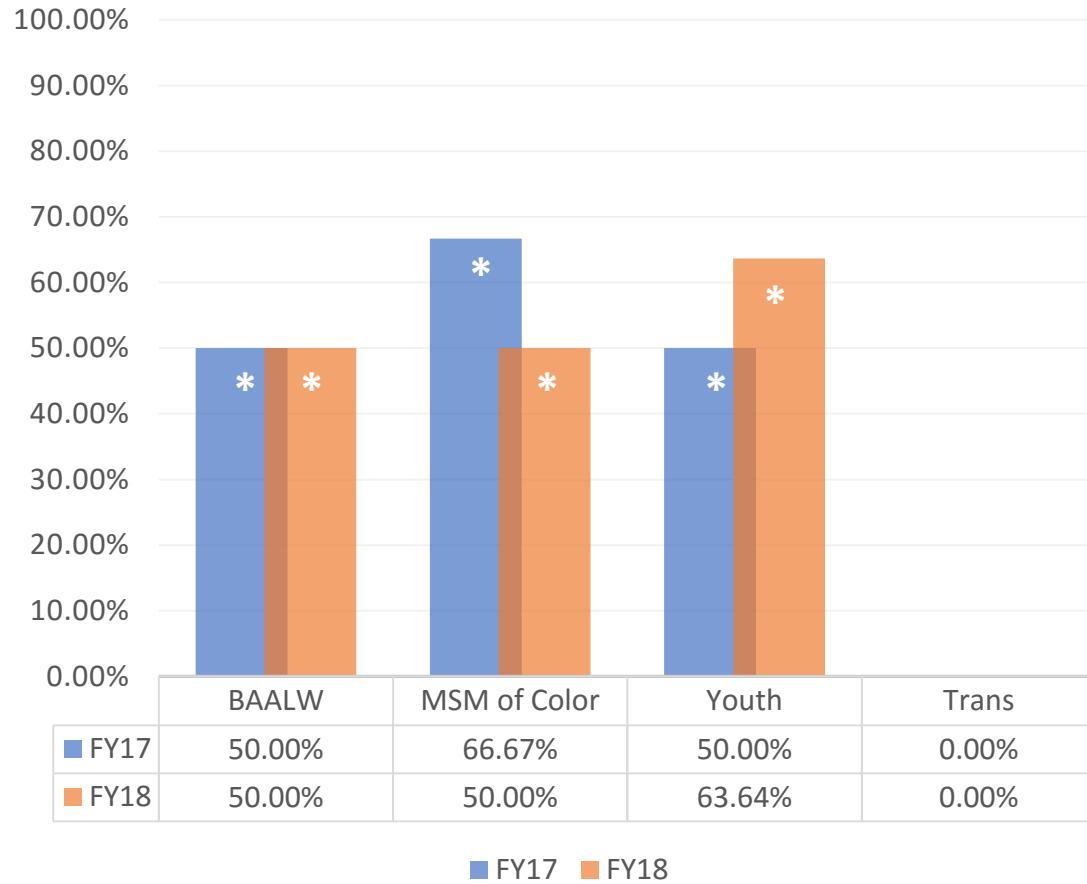


## Viral Load Suppression



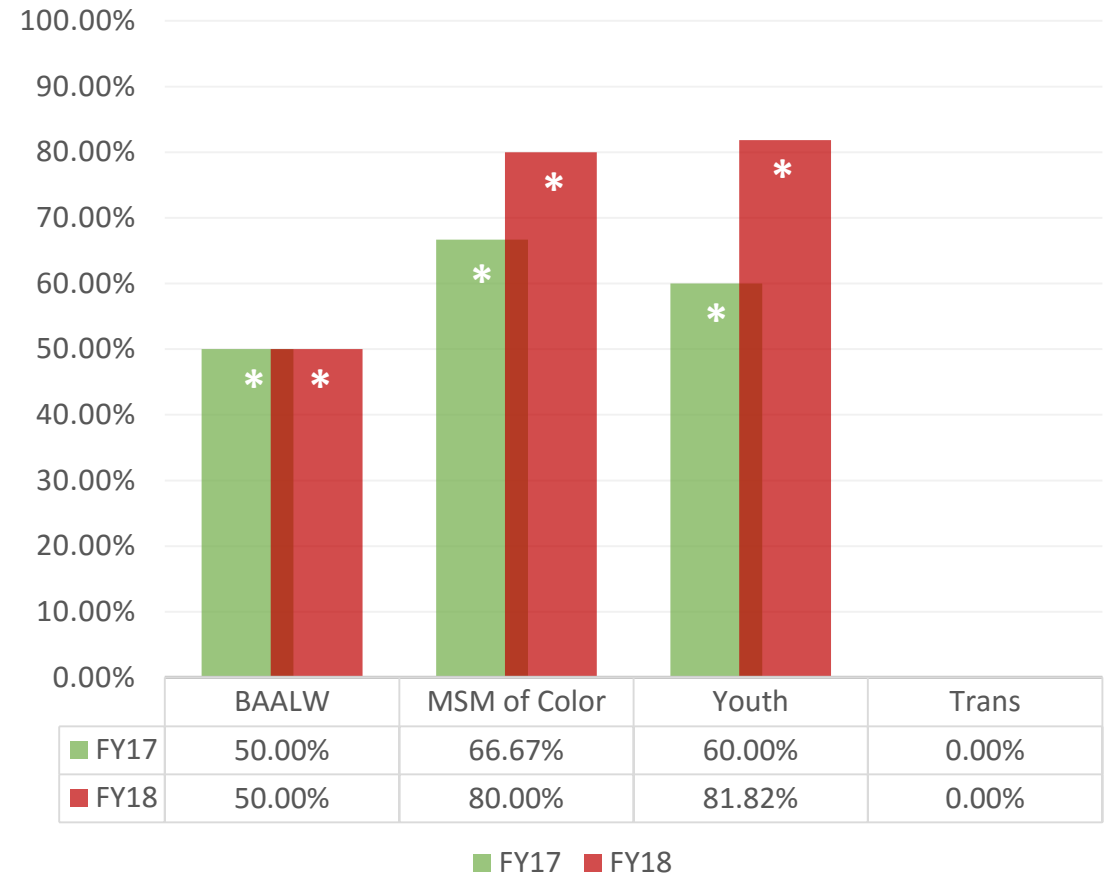
# Eta

## Retention in Care



\* Denotes client population size fewer than n=20

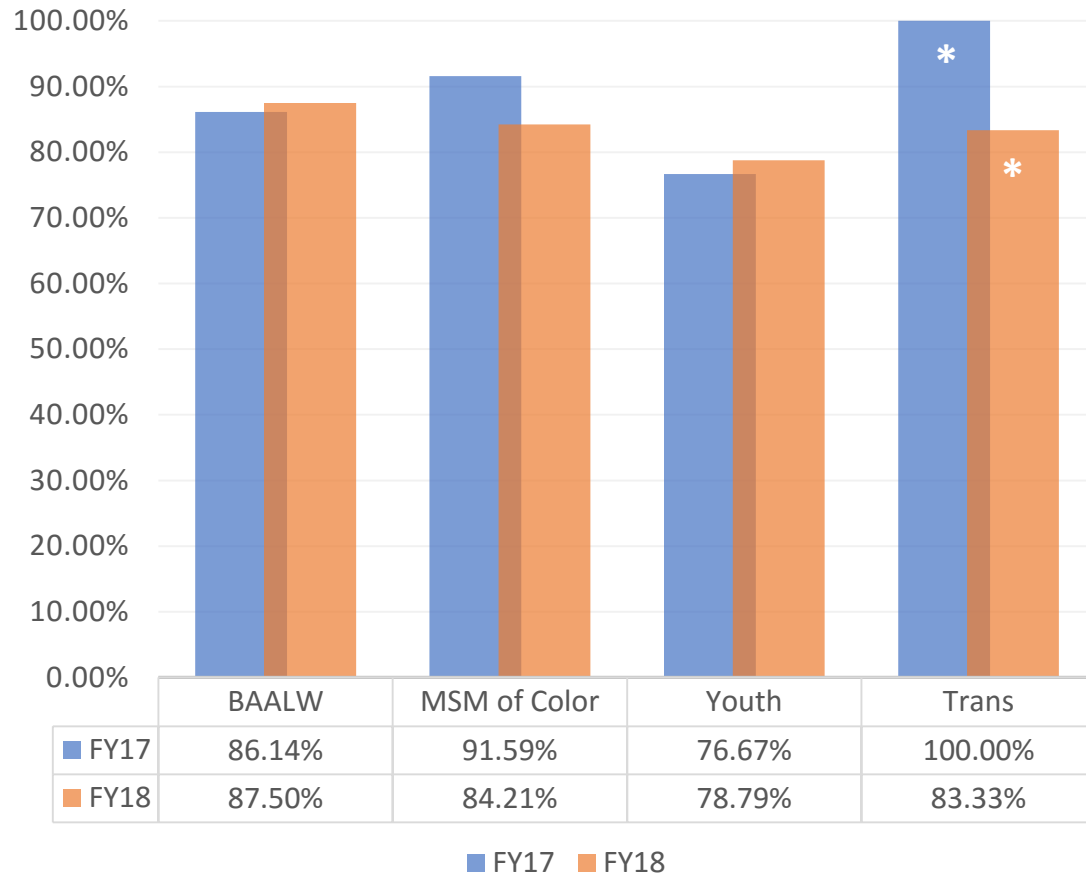
## Viral Load Suppression



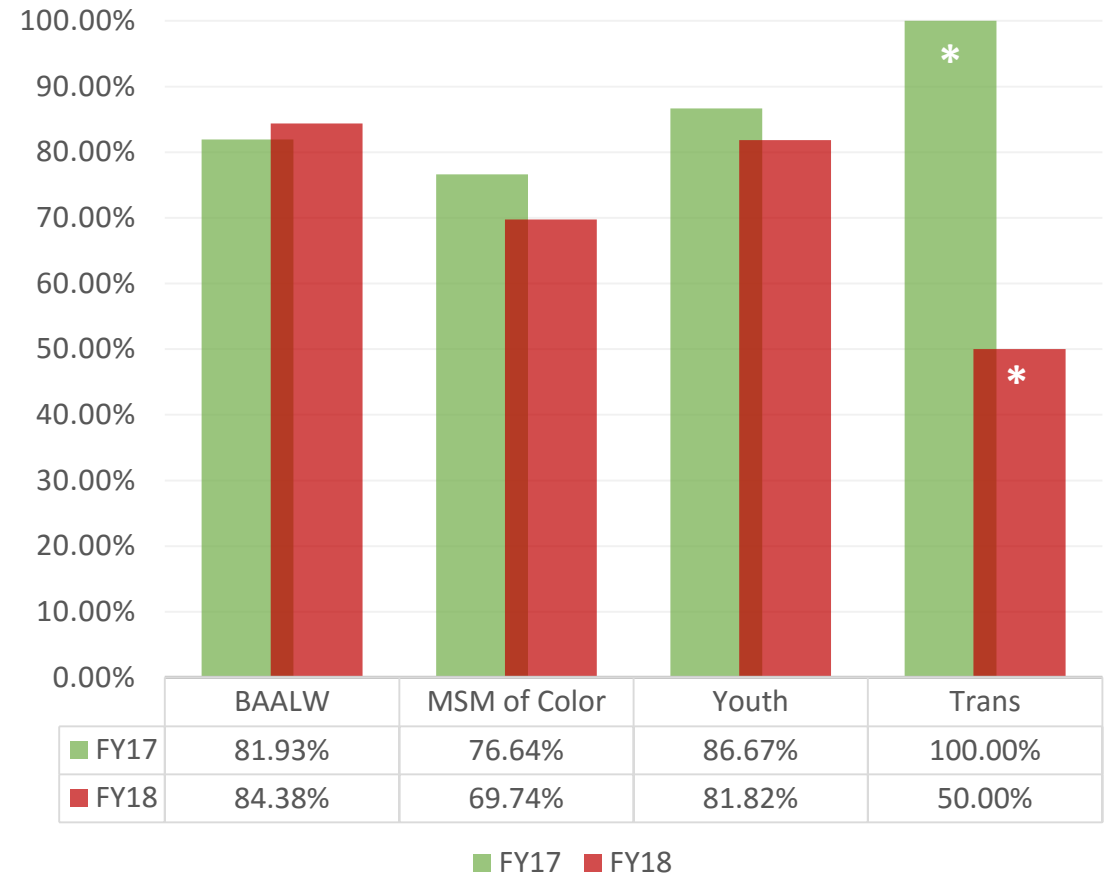
Source: Provide Enterprise, Care Continuum Report FY17; FY18

# Theta

## Retention in Care



## Viral Load Suppression

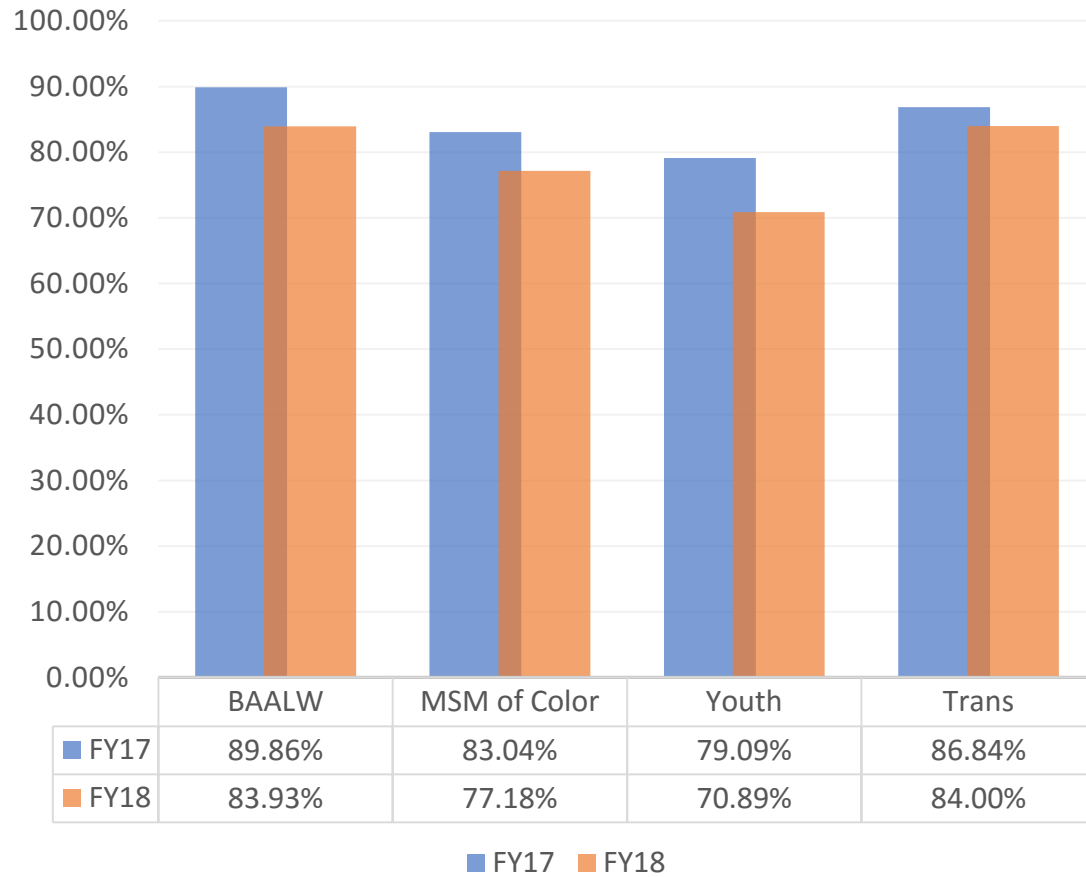


\* Denotes client population size fewer than n=20

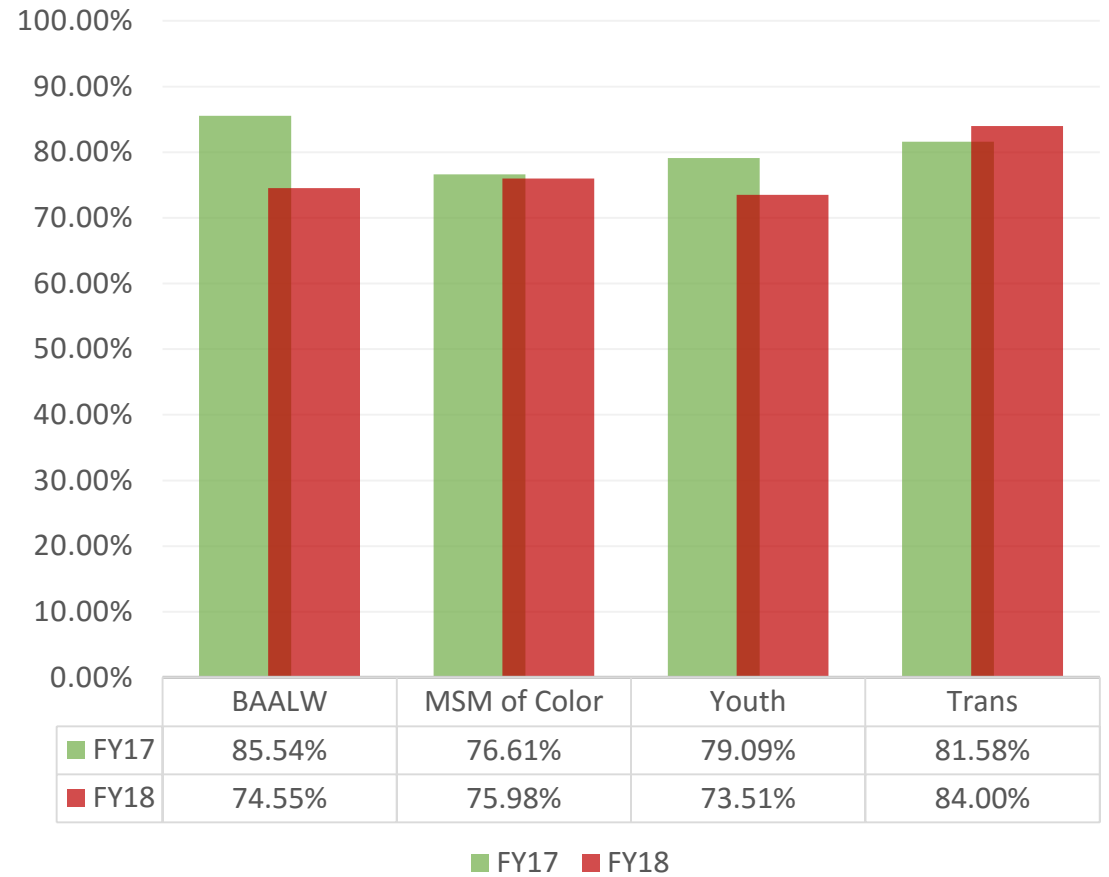
Source: Provide Enterprise, Care Continuum Report FY17; FY18

# Iota

## Retention in Care

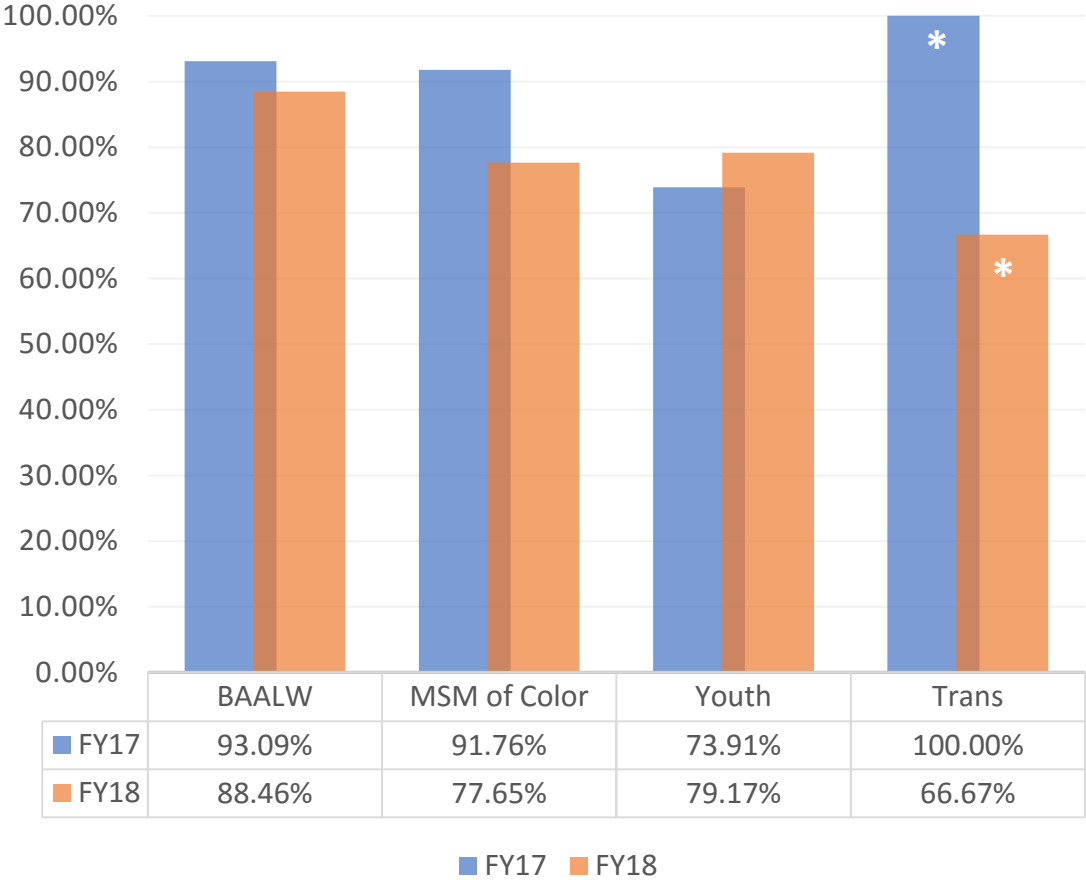


## Viral Load Suppression

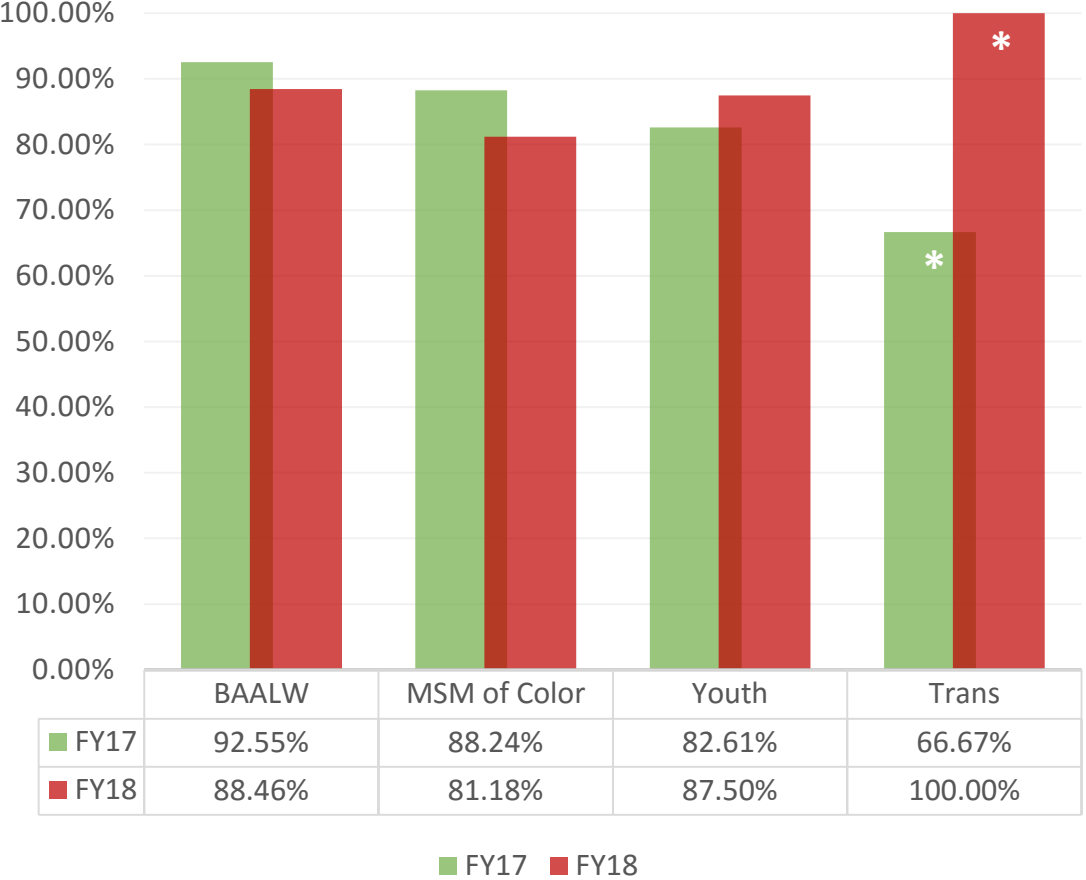


# Kappa

## Retention in Care



## Viral Load Suppression

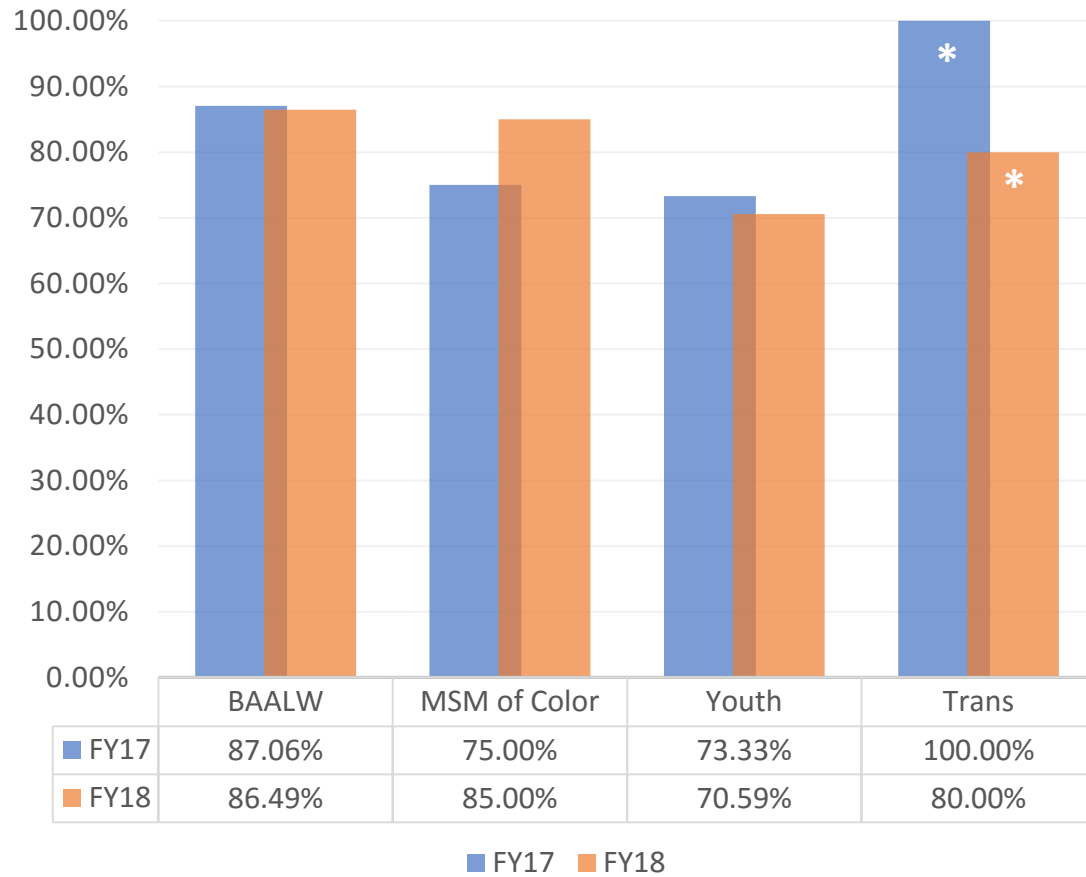


\* Denotes client population size fewer than n=20

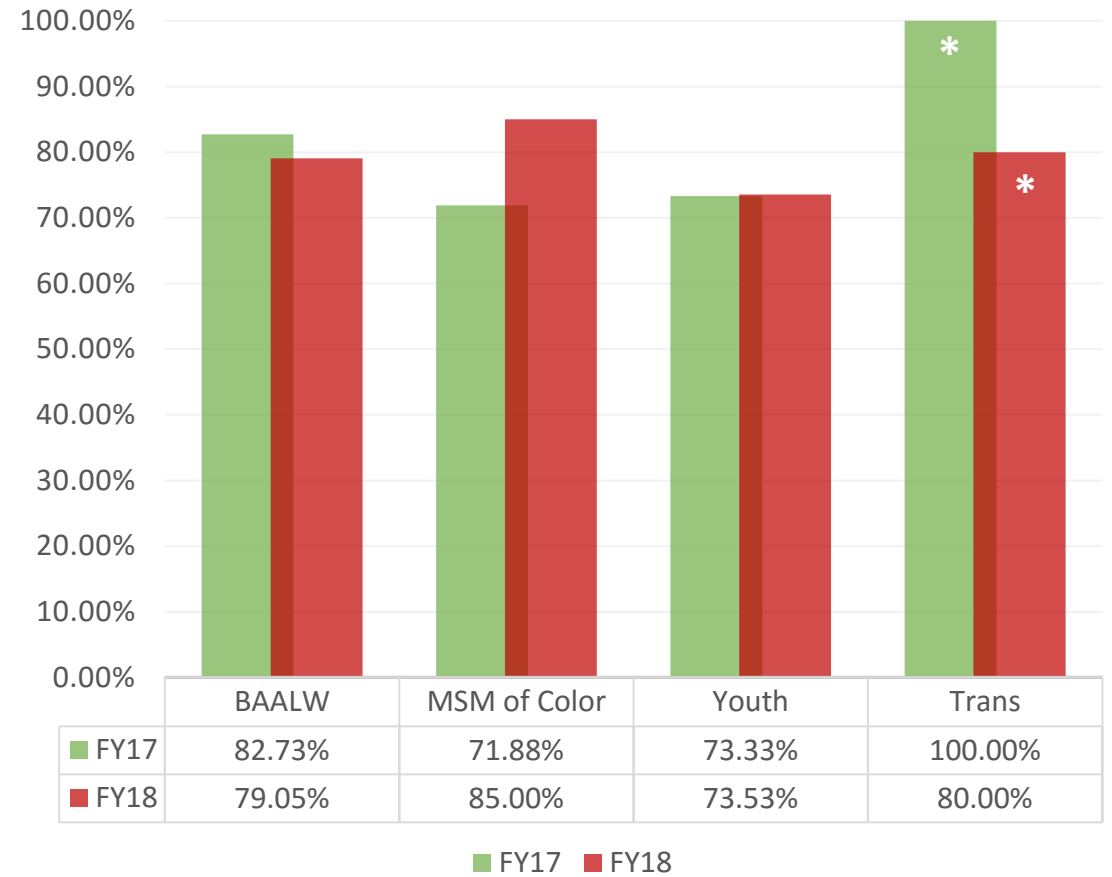
Source: Provide Enterprise, Care Continuum Report FY17; FY18

# Lambda

## Retention in Care



## Viral Load Suppression



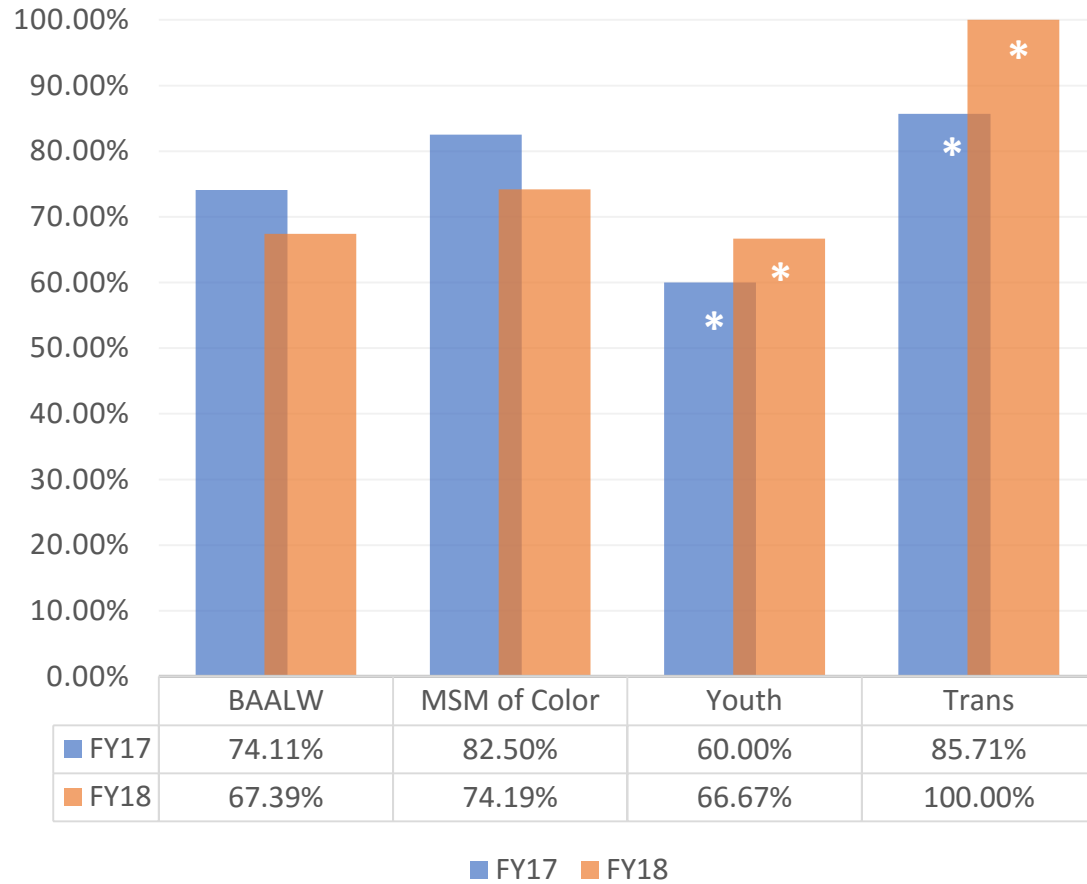
\* Denotes client population size fewer than n=20

Source: Provide Enterprise, Care Continuum Report FY17; FY18

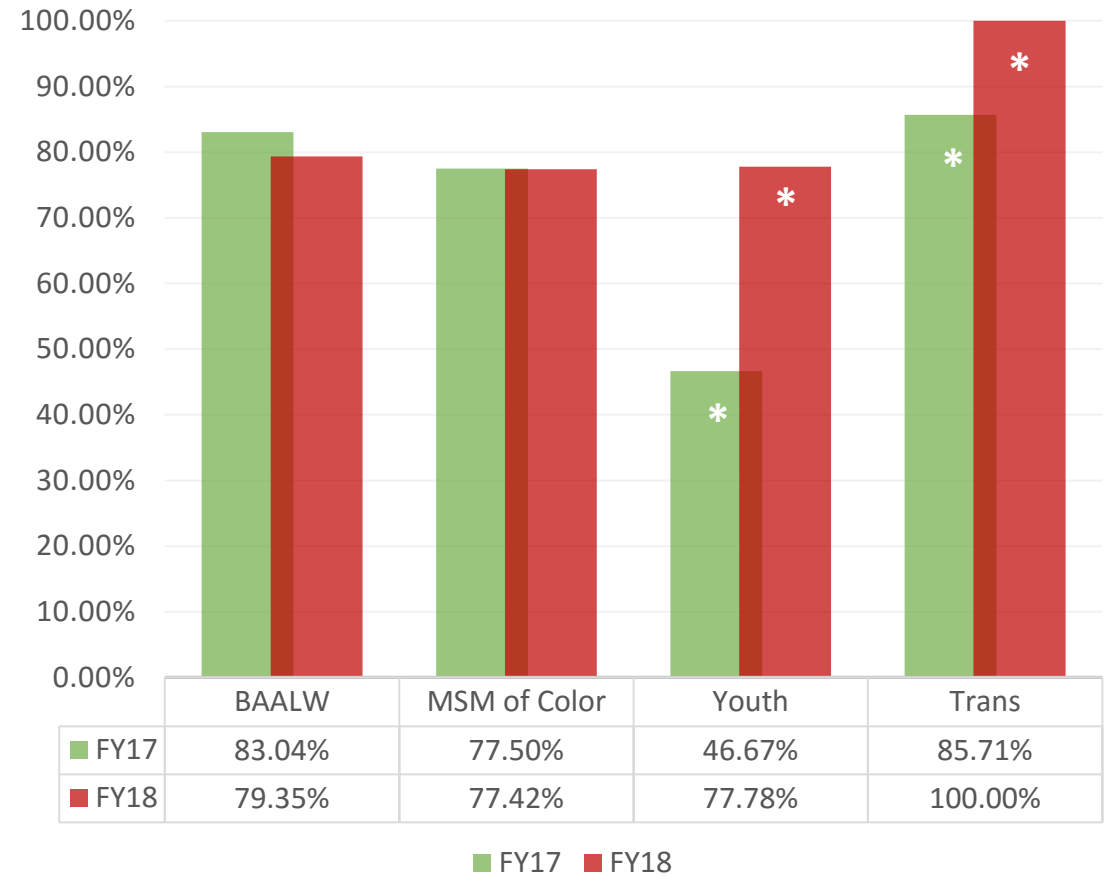


# Mu

## Retention in Care



## Viral Load Suppression

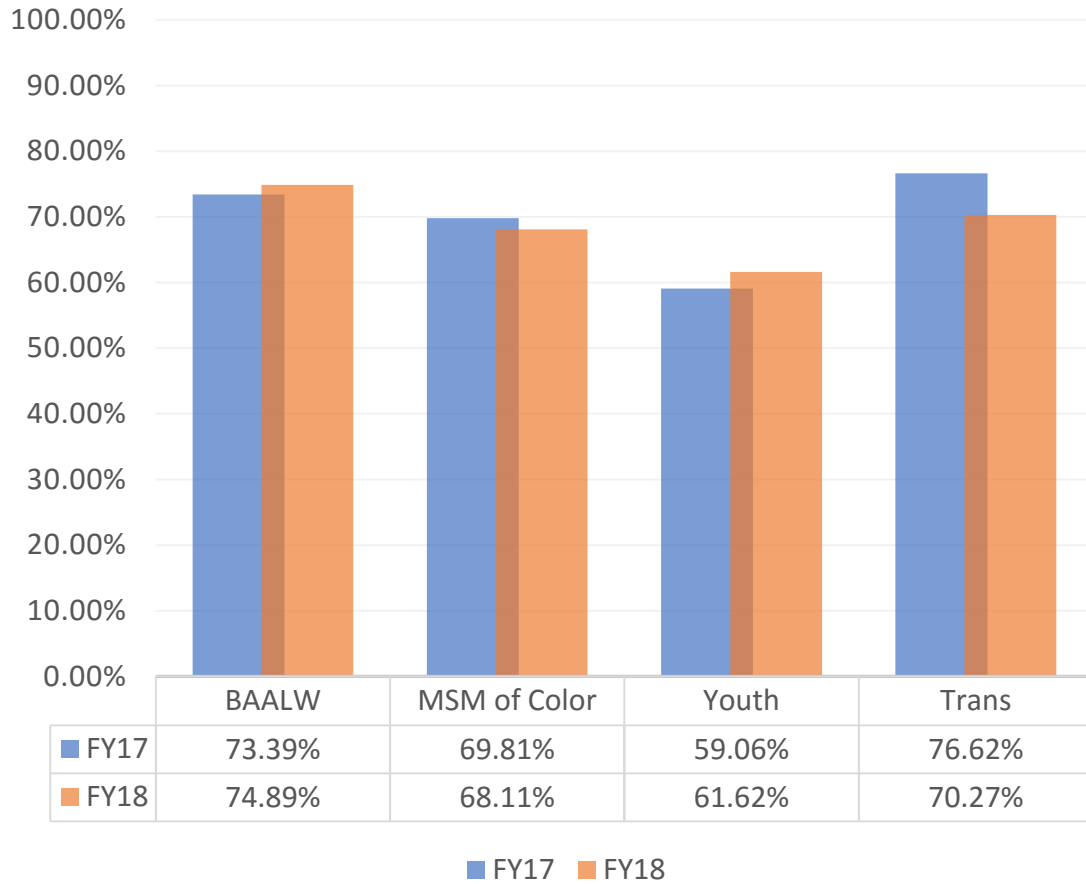


\* Denotes client population size fewer than n=20

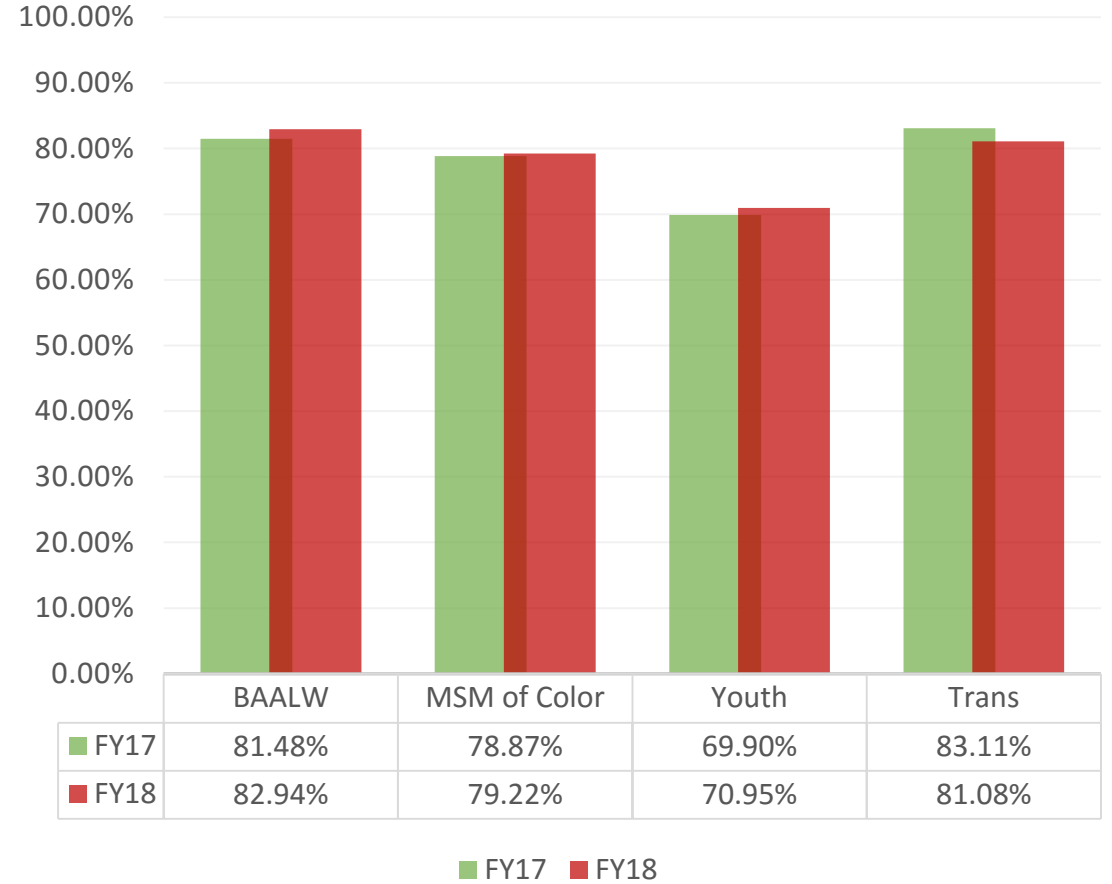
Source: Provide Enterprise, Care Continuum Report FY17; FY18

# Systemwide

## Retention in Care



## Viral Load Suppression





**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS DIVISION**

**Health Care Services Section**

115 S Andrews Avenue, Room A300 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-5390 • FAX 954-357-5897

**SUPPORT SERVICES NETWORK  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 @ 2:30pm  
**Location:** Ryan White Part A Program Office  
115 S. Andrews Ave., GC-320  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

**Facilitator:** Clinical Quality Management Staff  
quality@brhpc.org  
(954) 561-9681 ext. 1250

**PROVIDERS PRESENT**

Patrick Saint Fleur; AHF  
Marlena Solomon; AHF  
Roseline Lebissiere; BCFHC  
Glynette Roberts; BCFHC  
Karen Whyte; Broward House  
Natasha Markman; BRHPC  
Edgar Mojica; Care Resource  
Rafael Jimenez; Care Resource  
Amanda Sorge; Legal Aid  
Kara Schickowski; Legal Aid  
Edna Ferguson-Walker; Broward Health  
Amy Pont; Memorial  
Guerline Verger; Memorial  
Brad Barnes; Poverello

**CLINICAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT  
(CQM) SUPPORT STAFF**

Debbie Cestaro-Seifer  
Marcus Guice

**PART A RECIPIENT STAFF**

Edith Garcia  
Teisha Fender

**PROVIDERS ABSENT**

Latinos Salud

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 p.m.

**II. Welcome/Introductions**

CQM Staff welcomed everyone and individual introductions were made.

**III. Activity: QI IQ Survey Completion**

**IV.** Members filled out a short paper assessment that asked foundational questions about their experience and comfort with Quality Improvement.

## **V. Case Study: Legal Aid**

*(The client background and details of the case study can be found attached to the meeting packet.)* The presentation was made by Amanda Sorge of Coast to Coast Legal Aid. She prefaced the presentation with noting that medical treatment is the most important part of cases of this nature and Ryan White is the only source of funding in a few cases. It was also affirmed that procurement of medical records is highly beneficial for clients engaging in social security cases. She notes that the legal team's access to client medical records affects their ability to provide advice to the client. A member of the support services reinforced this and highlighted that policies and staff reference lists should always be kept up to date, especially in listing new staff hires during onboarding. It is important to keep lines of communication open between case managers and the legal team. Clients often need specialists who can connect clients to services that could otherwise not be utilized.

A member asked the presenter if a client is unhappy with their current legal representation, can they access services at Legal Aid? Amanda remarked that the client can come to talk with Legal Aid, however, all referred cases are not accepted. Legal Aid will, however, give advice to all clients that seek consultation. If someone already has an attorney and wants Legal Aid to represent them, they will need a letter from their private attorney that says (1) their attorney is no longer representing them and (2) the client does not owe any fees.

### *Access to Care Schedule*

The Recipient staff emphasized the importance of the monthly Access to Care Schedules. This is a tool that is intended to help personnel at each agency identify key contacts for various services that clients may need. It is imperative that staff changes are communicated to the Recipient team every month to maximize the benefit of this tool in providing interagency referrals.

## **VI. Mentimeter Introduction**

Mentimeter is a tool that the CQM team is using to build interactive presentations and add questions and polls to engage and draw feedback from the network members. The audience use their smartphones, tablets, or laptops to connect to the presentation where they can give responses to the questions that the CQM team present. Results from Mentimeter breaks will be recorded in the minutes.

## **VII. Data Talk: Numbers and Drill Downs**

CQM staff gave an introductory presentation covering the mission of the CQM program in the Fort Lauderdale/Broward EMA, the aims and definition of quality improvement, and the importance of data.

## VIII. Broward EMA Continuum Care FY2017-FY2018 Data Review

The CQM staff explained that the aim for this presentation is to use the HIV Care Continuum data to assess disparities by agency and create QIPs per agency by the end of the Fiscal Year. Four nationally identified disparate populations—African American & Latina Women, MSM of Color, Youth (age 13-24), and Transgender people, was the focus of the data drilldown. According to the drill down that the CQM staff conducted prior to the meeting, the only Broward Part A EMA population considered to be disparate is Youth (18-28 years old). Systemwide, the EMA experienced increases in viral load suppression in the following subpopulations: Black/African American and Latina Women, MSM of Color, and Youth. There was a decrease in viral load suppression among transgender people. MSM of color and the Transgender subpopulations experienced decreases in retention in care while Black/African American & Latina Women and Youth experienced an increase. Trends from the agencies differed and were fairly heterogenous.

## IX. Mentimeter Break

Question: What were some of the notable or surprising trends that were apparent in the data presented?

Answers:

- “Decrease in Transgender care”
- “Some agencies had much higher viral suppression than others, we should look into what they are doing”
- “The retention to care amongst the youth”
- “The retention in care and VL suppression numbers are close (identical)”
- “Lower than expected outcomes”
- “The data presented on viral load suppression does not reflect what shows on my case load”
- “For the most part, all agencies saw a similar trend in decreases of VL suppression and retention in care”
- “Data seem restricted although it may be representative of a group. (e.g. some data seem to have been omitted).”

*Discussion:*

Several of the Network members remarked that retention to care, in our system, is susceptible to be affected by the Test and Treat population who only have a temporary certification in the Ryan White program, if eligibility is not established within the initial 30-day window. The CQM staff also remarked that national trends show retention being higher than viral load suppression as viral suppression has been statistically observed to be a dependent variable to retention in care. Additionally, additional confounds could attribute to lower retention rates, with many of the cases being people who dropped out of care. In these cases, providers

were challenged to consider the nature of the clients who drop out of care, because this can be attributed to a broken relationship or an unsuccessful attempt to form a relationship with the client. The CQM staff impressed upon the members that all agency clients should be retained in care, not just Ryan White clients. Managing the connection with the client and using communication techniques with clients that help to empower and engage individuals is critical to strengthening an agency's relationship with all of their clients.

Question: What questions do you have about the data?

- Can you compare viral load suppression and retention for people that are in case management as opposed to those who are not?
- Are data results shared with clients during each stage of the quality improvement project?
- Number of clients per category: N=
- When looking at retention data for an agency, does the data include clients who are successfully linked to another agency?
- Should we be looking at seasonal data, such as summer time, spring...since appointments and retention may be seasonal?
- Can Black African American Latina Women (BAAL) be further broken down into individual categories, such as age, ethnicity? Also knowing how many Black African American women and Latina women we are talking about would be helpful. Can we drill down these two populations by service categories?
- Can we break down data by service rather than provider since some providers have offer more than one service?
- Can you provide the primary elements you look at when you sort these data so we can clearly understand the limitations, if there are any? We need to also understand the variations, so we know the exceptions and consistencies.

**X. Announcements**

- Peer Certification Program first class completion in May/June 2019
- CQII Plus Consumer QI Training AHF & Poverello participated in May 2019
- Quality Network Training Day June 12, 2019

**XI. Evaluation**

Staff asked all Quality Network members to complete a Meeting Evaluation Survey and make suggestions for topic discussions for the September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 meeting.

**XII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

**Next Meeting Date: September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 (time TBD)**