

California Prevention Training Center

Impact Report 2021

Building the capacity of sexual health care
providers and organizations



From the Director's Desk

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I want healthcare and health literacy to be more inclusive and equitable for everyone. At the CAPTC we put people first in our effort to promote equity and build provider capacity.
- Dana Cropper, CAPTC Director



2021 was a year of tremendous change as the COVID-19 pandemic and global response evolved. Addressing racism as a structural disparity within public health remains as urgent as ever. At the California Prevention Training Center (CAPTC) we stayed responsive while always pursuing our mission to promote health equity.

Our Disease Intervention Training Center launched new leadership and learning collaboratives designed to address issues core to our participants' requests, such as trauma-informed approaches to contact tracing. Simultaneously, we are looking ahead to longer-term goals, including a return to sexual health-centric offerings by the end of 2022.

Our deep partnership with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) further enhanced trainees' critical disease intervention skills through blended virtual learning opportunities.

Both our STI Clinical Training and Family Planning teams stewarded their audiences through long-awaited recommendations and policy changes from the CDC and California Department of Health Care Services Office of Family Planning. The Clinical team saw a renewed focus on STIs and increasing urgency to address disparities in PrEP access. The Family Planning team focused on training providers to deliver family planning services through telehealth and address vaccination concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Confronting core structural issues of the national healthcare crisis—which existed long before COVID-19—is a key aspect of the CAPTC's mission. The Capacity Building Assistance group held a series of events for public health workers to address stigma and discrimination.

Our Communications team debuted a refreshed CAPTC website and released Season 2 of our podcast on sexual health, now called *Coming Together for Sexual Health*.

Finally, it was also a year of transition for me. I took on the role of CAPTC director in early 2021, and have been focused on working towards our vision of equity and inclusivity in new, tangible ways, starting with our internal communication and staff engagement. I am determined to continue the great work of the CAPTC that you know so well and hope to discuss how we can better meet your needs for training and capacity building.

Sincerely,
Dana Cropper, MPA, MHR
Director, California Prevention Training Center

Boosting Knowledge and Skills

Learners increased knowledge and skills by 25% across all CAPTC courses with evaluation data (n=2,334).

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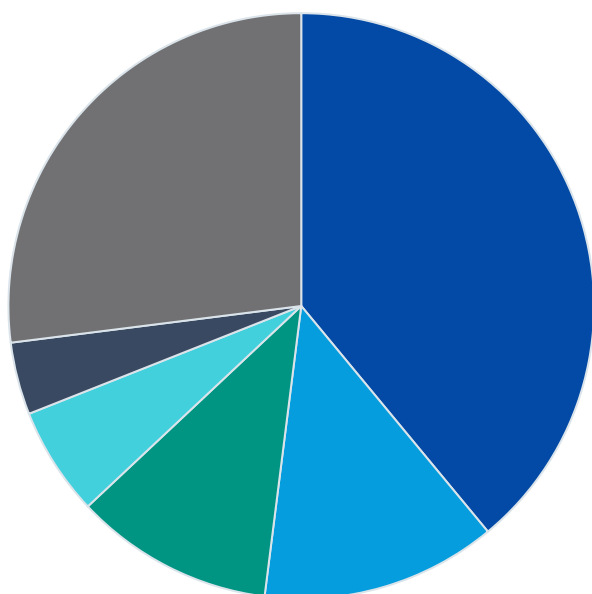
*Average BEFORE score (of 5)
of skills and knowledge across objectives.*

4.23

*Average AFTER score (of 5)
of skills and knowledge across objectives.*

25%

Learners work across the sexual health field.



39%

Clinicians

13%

Administrators

11%

Disease Intervention Specialists/
Contact Tracers and Case Investigators

6%

Health Educators

4%

Case Managers

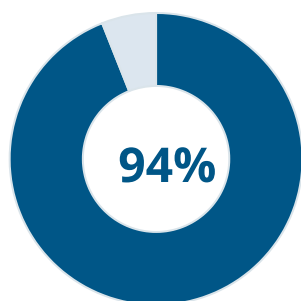
27%

Other roles e.g., Counselors,
Clinical/Med. Asst., Outreach Staff

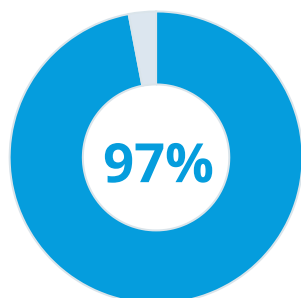
Learner Satisfaction

Across courses, participants expressed the high value of CAPTC course offerings.

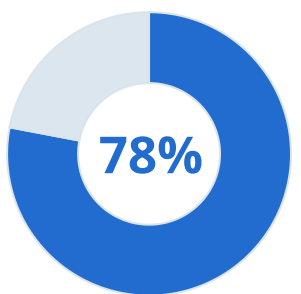
Surveys showed:



Overall satisfaction
(n=1,183)



Confidence to transfer skills to work settings
(n=154)



Intent to implement or maintain change
(n=1,174)



National Leadership



Training Health Workers Across the U.S.

In 2021 we guided the disease intervention workforce across the United States through evolutions in the dual crises of COVID-19 and STIs.

The CAPTC's clinical program medical director and principal investigator, Dr. Ina Park, co-authored the long-awaited 2021 CDC Sexually Transmitted Infections Treatment Guidelines which had been delayed by COVID-19. Once published, we held a comprehensive webinar to steer clinical providers through updates.

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The presenters were all very knowledgeable and presented the information in a clear and concise manner. I truly learned a lot during the training.
- STI Treatment Guidelines Webinar Participant

The CAPTC continues our partnership with Cicatelli Associates, Inc. (CAI), providing virtual trainings on evidence-based interventions in accordance with CDC strategy. These are designed to ensure that the HIV prevention workforce has the competencies and support necessary to accelerate progress toward ending the epidemic.

CAPTC staff supported over 35 trainings during 2021, reaching learners across the country.

Addressing the COVID-19 Pandemic



National / Regional COVID-19 Response

CAPTC, through the National Network of Disease Investigation Training Centers (NNDITC) continued to support learners and develop curricula. These activities are critical to growing a strong public health workforce. NNDITC additionally offered learning collaboratives focused on participant-requested topics. Themes included vaccine hesitancy, trauma-informed care, and managing breakthrough infections. Collaboratives enable peer-to-peer learning across health jurisdictions and improve public health networks.

This year we launched a leadership training track for COVID-19 public health leaders. These three-day trainings support team leads and strengthen their ability to be effective coaches. Through this track, we support managers in promoting culturally-competent, sustainable COVID-19 response activities.



California COVID-19 Response

We continue a strong collaboration with the University of California, San Francisco and Los Angeles (UCSF and UCLA), and the CDPH on the Virtual Training Academy+ (VTA+). VTA+ supports California's evolving public health response to the pandemic. Additional trainings, webinars, and skills-based labs addressed remote working, outbreak management, vaccine communications, school reopening, and more. Support mechanisms such as peer-to-peer learning, mentorship, wellness support, and in-service training were added. We aim to facilitate connection and resilience. In 2021, VTA+ reached over 3,400 learners through virtual skills-building workshops.



A powerful sense of camaraderie exists among leadership participants. They share knowledge, insights, and strategies gained from guiding teams in this unprecedented time.

- Denise Tafoya, DITC Program Manager

Leading the Western States



Enabling Structural-Level Change in the Western Region

We nurtured strategic partnerships that allow us to confront systems-level inequities on a wide scale. With our partners in the Western Region, the CAPTC held a compelling symposium on "Strategies to Address Medical Mistrust." The event highlighted the impact and health effects of medical mistrust in Black, Latin, and Indigenous communities. To support structural interventions, we convened institutes addressing syringe services programs and condom distribution. These gatherings built the capacity of health department and community-based organization staff.



As a trainer and health educator, I intend to use this information to help others understand and be understood in regards to medical mistrust. First and foremost, I must look within to see how I am contributing to this, and then find ways to incorporate solutions (communicate well, give information simply, encourage, empower) into everyday work.
- Strategies to Address Medical Mistrust Participant



STI Consultations for Providers

The STD Clinical Consultations Network provides clinical decision support to licensed healthcare professionals and STI program staff.

In 2021, we provided 275 consultations to staff at local health departments, community health centers, family planning clinics, and more.



Collaborative Learning Across the West

The CAPTC hosts 76 members in the *Ending the HIV Epidemic Learning Collaborative*. We provide a platform for health departments, community partners, and organizations to network, share experiences, and learn.

We formed the learning collaborative *Social Media Strategies and Social Marketing Campaigns*. This supported health departments in strengthening virtual community engagement efforts during the pandemic. Members explored and drafted media strategies and campaign action plans.

Partnerships in California



Evidence-Based Interventions

CAPTC collaborated with Kaiser Permanente Northern California (KPNC) to share ideas and best practices for delivering sexual health care virtually.

Five virtual *Sexual Health Learning Community* sessions were held to support KPNC's new app-based specialized sexual health visit. This initiative allows patients to request STI and HIV testing and PrEP without a primary provider consult.



The learning community provided an environment for practice and shared experiences with others. It's been great to participate and learn about the research behind the planned changes in practice.
- Co-Lead, KPNC Virtual Sexual Health Program



Supporting PrEP and Expanding Networks Locally

Recognizing the unique longitudinal needs of PrEP patients, CAPTC held a series of PrEP institutes in Orange County and San Diego to support providers and clinics in understanding how to provide basic PrEP care and navigation.

The institutes were integral in linking participating clinics with partners in this work, connecting them to a broader best practices network.



I plan to counsel all my patients about PrEP now, instead of just selectively, and will mention how they can help get the word out to friends, etc.
- San Diego PrEP for Cisgender Women Training Participant

Provider-Specific Trainings



Supporting Providers and the Public in California

In collaboration with the CDPH, we expanded the capacity of Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) and STD Control Branch frontline providers to support client self-disclosure. We created a blended learning experience that included self-study modules and live virtual skills-based practice. Additionally, we established learning collaboratives focusing on stigma and bias-reduction exercises for the public health workforce. The goal was to facilitate a greater client-centered approach with clients who identify as men who have sex with men (MSM) and people who use drugs (PWUD).



Thank you for setting an environment to feel safe in being transparent about our confidence.
- Cultural Humility Approach to Working with People Who Use Drugs (PWUD) Participant



Training Family Planning Providers

Guiding family planning practitioners through the many changes of 2021, CAPTC provided the following webinars to over 1,700 family planning providers in the California Family Planning, Access, Care and Treatment (Family PACT) Program:



Update in Evaluation and Management Office Visit Coding for Family PACT Services



Implementing the CDC STI Treatment Guidelines, 2021: A Conversation for Family PACT Providers



Talking With Family Planning Clients About COVID-19 Vaccination



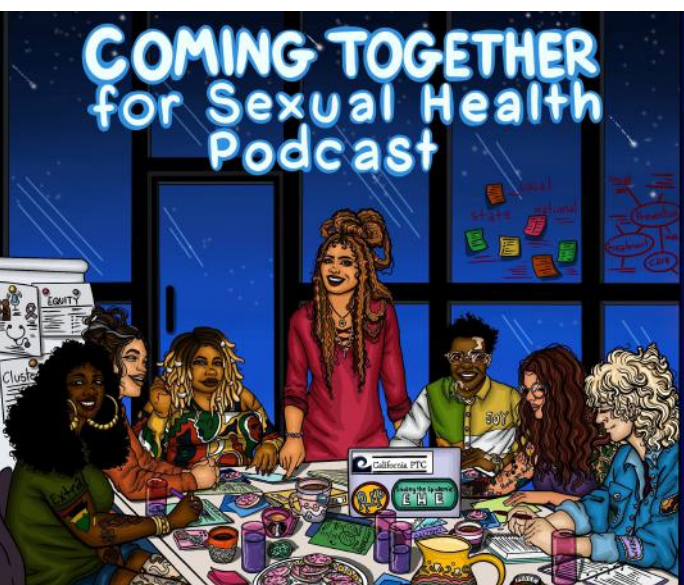
Thank you for offering this webinar especially in light of the period of uncertainty about how to counsel pregnant women and those anticipating pregnancy earlier in the pandemic when the vaccine was released. This is VERY helpful for patient guidance going forward.
- Talking with Family Planning Clients about COVID-19 Vaccination Participant

Communications



Overview

Communications in these times remain as crucial as ever. In 2021 we performed deep analysis of our communications efforts and enhanced the accessibility of our materials through remediation efforts.



Podcast

Insightful interviews with health experts continued on our podcast, *Speaking Frankly*, now rebranded as *Coming Together for Sexual Health*.



Website

We relaunched our website, CaliforniaPTC.com, with an improved layout and user flow, and streamlined our social media strategy. The new site is designed to meet our audiences' needs with accessible and clear information, while reflecting the core values which set us apart.

Strength Through Collaboration

The work of the California Prevention Training Center is intertwined with that of our partners and made possible through our deep collaborations.

