

#### **RETENTION STRATEGIES** Bronx Prevention Center, Bronx, NY Lauren Shanker, MPH Site Coordinator



#### **Retention Efforts to Date:**

HPTN 064 N=210 with 95% retention for 12 months
 HPTN 076 N=19 with 95% retention
 Maintaining 95% retention over past ten years

### **Retention Challenges**

#### Financial challenges of participants

- Poverty
- Homelessness
- Instability and unemployment
- Substance abuse
- Transportation
- Mental Illness
- Children and family responsibilities
- Work or School hours
- Length of Study
  - Fears about procedures

# **Retention Strategies**

Friendly and welcoming staff and environment
 Establishing good rapport
 Maintaining flexibility with participants
 Understanding potential conflicts
 Respect for participant time
 Retention efforts begin with pre-screening



### **MORE** Retention Strategies

- Clarity about requirements of study participation:
  - Study length and visit duration
- Personalized retention efforts
  - Texting, email, phone
  - Adapting to participants needs
  - Cards, all staff interactions with participants
  - Staff huddles
- □ Site itself

Décor, food/drinks, condoms, safe space, zen, events, etc.

Staff reflect participant population and are accessibleALL contribute to retention

## Locator Information/Outreach Log

|   |                         | Bronx Prevention Center<br>HPTN 083: Outreach Attempt Log |                           |                |
|---|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|----------------|
| HPTN 085  |                         | Date  | Reason/Outcome of contact | Staff Initials |
| Locator Information Sheet   | ī                       |   |                           | -              |
| Bronx-Prevention Center   |                         |   |                           |                |
| Staff Initials:   | Date:                   |   |                           |                |
| PARTICIPANT INFORMATION   |                         |   |                           |                |
| Name: Nickname:   |                         |   |                           |                |
| Current Address:Apt #:  |                         |   |                           |                |
| City:State:   | Zip: 3                  |   |                           |                |
| Is it ok to send mail to this address?<br>□ yes □ no (if no, where mail to this address? □ yes □ no (if no, where mail t | nay we send your mail?) |   |                           |                |
| Alternative Address or P.O Box:   | pt#: 4                  |   |                           |                |
| City: State: Z  | üp:                     |   |                           |                |
| How should we identify ourselves in the mailing:  |                         |   |                           |                |
| Is it ok to visit you at your home address if we have difficulties contacting you? yes  |                         |   |                           |                |
| Home Phone#: Cell Phone#:   |                         |   |                           |                |
| Can we send you a tex   | t message; no 🗆 yes     |   |                           |                |
| Email address:  |                         |   |                           |                |
| Social Networking sites (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, etc):  |                         |   |                           |                |
| What is the best way to reach you (home phone, cell phone, text or email)?  |                         |   |                           |                |
|   |                         |   |                           |                |
| When is the best time to call you?  |                         |   |                           |                |
| What is the best number?  |                         |   |                           |                |
| Is it ok to leave a message?  no  yes. Who should we ask  | k for?                  |   |                           |                |
| Who should we say is calling?   |                         |   |                           |                |
| Is it ok to call on the week-end? yes   |                         |   |                           |                |
|   |                         |   |                           |                |

## Missed Visits?

Appointment reminders
 Email, text, calls, then emergency contacts, certified letter, home visits
 Doing what ever possible and legitimate to bring participant
 Taxi fare

- Metro card (subway/bus fare)
- Later or early hours on pre-set date

## Lost to Follow up

#### ■ KEEP TRYING!!

#### ....Study closeout



Sometimes I ask myself, what would the honey badger do?



