



## RYAN WHITE CLINICS FOR 340B ACCESS AN OVERVIEW

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**RWC-340B's MISSION** – RWC-340B is a coalition of HIV/AIDS medical providers receiving support under the Ryan White CARE Act. The CARE Act provides funding for services primarily to poor and/or uninsured people with HIV/AIDS. Ryan White providers are eligible to participate in the federal 340B drug discount program, which enables them to expand and support care. In an effort to preserve access to this critically important program, members of RWC-340B have pledged to work together to advocate for the interests of fellow 340B Ryan White providers.

**340B OVERVIEW** – Established as part of the Veterans Health Care Act of 1992, the 340B program allows certain classes of safety net providers, called “covered entities,” to purchase covered outpatient prescription drugs from manufacturers at discounted prices. ***The 340B program is not funded by taxpayers***; it is a discount that drug manufacturers agree to provide as a condition of Medicaid covering their drugs. It is administered by the Office of Pharmacy Affairs (OPA) within the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

**HOW RWC-340B CLINICS USE 340B SAVINGS TO EXPAND SAFETY NET SERVICES** – The 340B program is a lifeline that allows safety net providers, including Ryan White-funded HIV/AIDS clinics, to obtain prescription drugs at substantial savings. With these savings, Ryan White clinics are able to fulfill the purpose of the 340B program, which is to “stretch scarce Federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services.” Through 340B, our members offer a wider range of services and improve the quality of care delivered to persons living with HIV/AIDS.

**OUR MEMBERS** – Members of RWC-340B provide primary care and many other services to persons living with HIV/AIDS. Experts recognize that, to be successful in the fight against HIV/AIDS, persons living with the disease need more than medical care. Ryan White clinics often serve as a gateway to a broader range of services. The 340B program allows them to stretch their resources to support the full continuum of care that their patients need, from diagnosis, to linkage to care, to medication adherence and viral suppression. The Founding members of RWC-340B are AIDS Care Group, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Evergreen Health Services of Western New York, Trillium Health, and Whole Family Health Center.

**OUR PATIENTS** – In 2011, Ryan White clinics served approximately half of all Americans with HIV/AIDS, over fifty percent of whom were indigent and/or uninsured. Our patients face challenges that extend beyond drug affordability, and which must be addressed if we are to treat successfully their HIV, allowing them to be healthy, care for their families, and prevent new infections. The 340B program is an integral part of our ability to treat the disease and the patient, and successfully end the AIDS epidemic.

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