Background

The office of the mayor has a division dedicated to improving health outcomes in Nashville/Davidson County through program and policy interventions.

One of the main goals is addressing HIV prevalence in the community through their Ending the Epidemic Program.

In 2017, there were 146 new HIV diagnoses in the Nashville area, and a total of 4,103 people living with HIV in Nashville.

The program outlined specific goals to reduce prevalence, address the stigma around HIV, and connect patients with treatment opportunities.

Aims

The Ending the Epidemic program had six specific goals to accomplish before 2024:

1. Ensure that 90% of Nashville Residents living with HIV know their serostatus
2. Decrease the number of Nashville residents with newly acquired HIV by 2/3
3. Link 90% of those diagnosed with HIV to care within one month of diagnosis
4. Engage 90% of people diagnosed with HIV in care
5. Ensure that 90% of those engaged in care will achieve viral suppression
6. Eliminate disparities in HIV outcomes

Results

The Ending the Epidemic report with the goals and action items was released to the public in May 2019.

On May 19, Mayor Briley signed an executive order that created the Ending the Epidemic Advisory Council.

A list of nominees for the advisory council, including community stakeholders from a variety of backgrounds that are all passionate about ending HIV in Nashville, was submitted to the Mayor for vetting.

Next Steps

› Signing the executive order was just the beginning of what will be a long and tedious process.

› The members on the Advisory Council are not yet final; once they are, swift action is critical to ensure proper steps are taken to meet the goals in an allotted timeline.

› Despite a new mayor being elected, Ending the Epidemic remains at the forefront of the office’s health-related initiatives.