

Chapter 17 NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

Needs assessment is the cornerstone of the CARE Act planning process and a required activity for Part B grantees and planning bodies. Developing a service plan, setting priorities and allocating resources appropriately requires an understanding of the following: the characteristics and trends of the local HIV epidemic; current and projected service needs; and the resources (including providers, services, and funding) that are available to meet these needs. The Needs Assessment provides this information.

The Needs Assessment provides the most current information on the needs, both perceived and actual, facing individuals in Southwest Virginia. It is intended to identify gaps in service, promote reduction of gaps in service and improve service delivery. The Needs Assessment is to be conducted by the lead agency in odd numbered years.