

*What's keeping you from getting the care you need?*

**I'm worried people will find out that I have HIV/AIDS.**

Public Health Law protects your privacy and ensures your confidentiality as you work with our staff.

**I don't have any way of getting to my medical appointments.**

Linkage to Care can help you with your transportation needs. Call us for more information.

*I just found out I'm HIV positive, I'm scared about what to do next.*

**We are here to help you.  
Call us.**

**I won't be able to afford the treatment I need.**

Don't let money keep you from getting care. Talk to us about your situation... we will help you get the medical care you need.

**I'm worried about the side effects of my medication.**

There are now more than 20 approved antiretroviral drugs, your healthcare team will work with you to find the drugs that best suit your care.

# There is Help.

Linkage to Care clinics are conveniently located at several health departments within the West Central Health District.

## Contact Us

*Your privacy is assured.  
Referrals Accepted.*

### Linkage Coordinator

Office: 706-321-6293  
Mobile: 706-505-0883  
Fax: 706-321-6409

### Health Services Program Supervisor

Office: 706-321-6412  
Fax: 706-321-6409

### \*Columbus Health Department

Switchboard: 706-321-6300.

Please ask for the District Clinical Services' Office

## Linkage to Care

Serving the people of  
Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly,  
Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee  
(Columbus), Quitman, Randolph, Schley,  
Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor & Webster counties.



# Linkage to Care

Your link to the care you need if you have been diagnosed with HIV.

*We are here to help you.  
Call us.*

# Linkage to Care



The Linkage to Care program connects newly and previously diagnosed HIV positive individuals to HIV medical care.

- People with HIV and AIDS **can** live longer, healthy lives, if proper care and support is provided.
- If you are HIV positive (newly diagnosed or previously positive), it is **very important** to keep your immune system as strong as possible. This will help you fight diseases and infections.
- Early treatment with antiretroviral therapy (ART) keeps your **CD4 Count UP** and your **Viral Load Down**.

## *Your link to the HIV Care you Need*

### Services Provided

- We work with you to learn what keeps you from getting the HIV care you need.
- Support developing a plan to get you HIV medical care.
- Guidance on maintaining good health through healthy eating and physical activity habits

- Treatment that lowers and controls the amount of HIV in your body and prevents opportunistic illnesses.
- Referrals to community resources and additional help you may need such as: transportation, dental care, counseling and social services.

*"I'm still ME. Yes, I'm living with HIV but, I'm still the exact same person."*  
-H.G. Back in treatment after 8 months

## You're not alone

*Others are walking the path you are on... fighting the battles you fight and finding encouragement from each other.*

*"Hiding wasn't for me. I thought the only way to combat stigma or prevent gossip was to tell my story first. So I admitted the truth to my entire family." - S.V. Newly Diagnosed*

*"I live my truth openly and honestly. I don't waste any time or energy hiding this part of my reality."  
- T.M. - In treatment for 2 months*

*"I encourage people to get themselves ready for the commitment, but I also stress that if they're not ready, they'll do more damage to their body in the long run." -J.M. In treatment for six months*

