#### **Division of Global HIV and Tuberculosis** Center for Global Health

### Youth friendly center for reaching the unreached people who inject drugs (PWIDs) in Churachandpur district of Manipur

N.M. Singh<sup>1</sup>, N.J. Singh<sup>1</sup>, G. Shreenivas<sup>2</sup>, A. Hegde<sup>3</sup>, P. Choudhury<sup>4</sup>, R. Singh<sup>1</sup>, A. Mongjam<sup>5</sup>, S. Chawla<sup>6</sup>, U. Sharma<sup>6</sup>, S. Upadhyaya<sup>6</sup>, M. Nyendak<sup>6</sup>

1 - PATH, Imphal, India, 2 - PATH, New Delhi, India, 3 - PATH, Mumbai, India, 4 - PATH, Guwahati, India, 5 - Manipur State AIDS Control Society, Imphal, India, 6 - U.S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, DGHT, India country office, New Delhi, India



## BACKGROUND

Churachandpur, Manipur has high incidence of injecting drug use among younger adolescent population. Compared to adults, they are less likely to attend the government-run Targeted Interventions (TI) due to:

age-of-consent (18 years)

requirement to disclose attendance to parents/guardians.

There is a need for focused youth-led interventions, specific to the needs of this age group.

# DESCRIPTION

The Manipur State AIDS Control Society, with support from PATH through PEPFAR conducted the following:



Establishment of a youth friendly **center** and service young PWID can delivery model in spend their time Churachandpur Identification and training of Community Youth counsellors and consultation with community **Peer volunteers 50 young PWID** (18-22 years)



Provision of a **safe and** welcoming space where

## Following services are provided at the youth friendly center, Churachandpur:

- Counselling services
- HIV and Hepatitis C screening
- Index testing
- Mobile HIV testing camps
- Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) support group meetings
- Overdose management

Referral services

Community

events

Hepatitis C treatment

Testing Centre

• Integrated Counselling &

- Bring your buddy day
- Family engagement
- Art competition

• ART center

• MAT

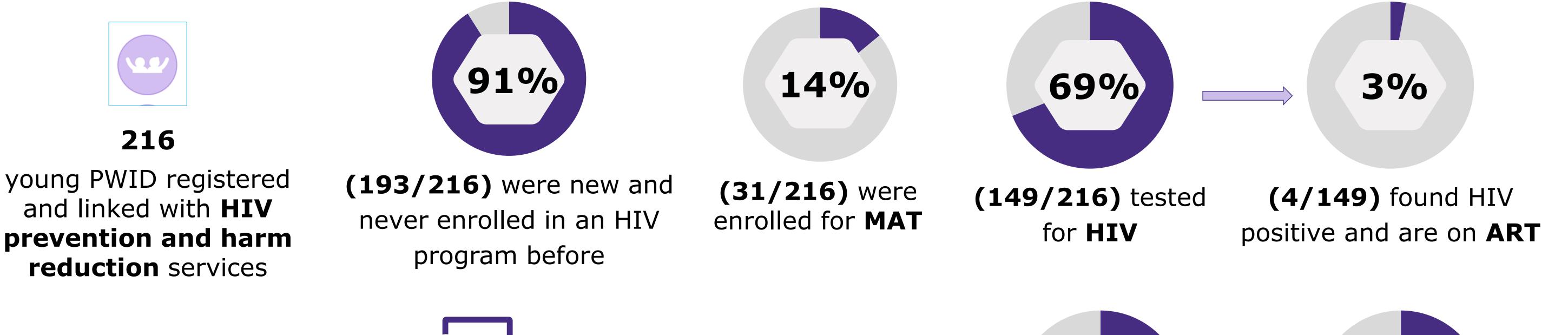
• TIs

Media campaign



Community event being held at the youth friendly center at Churachandpur, Manipur. Photo credit: Ningombam Singh, PATH

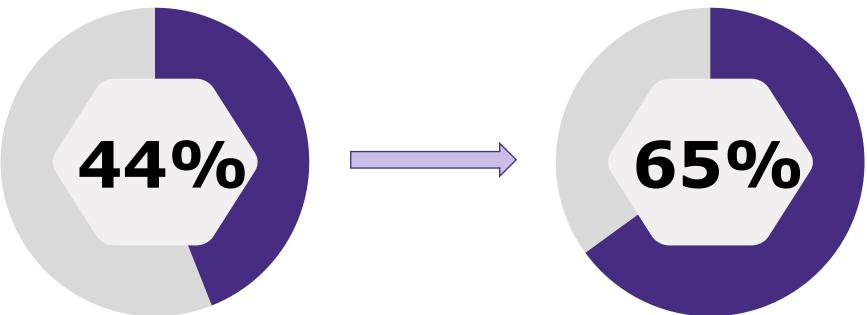
#### **RESULTS** January 2022 to December 2022



454 counselling sessions held on:

- Psychosocial support
- Mental health  $\bullet$
- Skills building ullet
- Recreational activities
- Enabling family support system

Additionally, family group meetings were conducted on substance use disorder to support family members



(94/216) tested for **Hepatitis C** 

(61/94) found positive and linked to **treatment** 



The center received an excellence certificate by the Churachandpur District Administration for the lifesaving work.

## CONCLUSION

- Community-led, youth-friendly services create an enabling environment to bring previously unreached young and adolescent PWID to HIV care services.
- This model has potential to reach the unreached young PWID.

**CONTACT INFO** Ningombam Singh nmsingh@path.org

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