

# Responding to Increasing STDs in San Francisco

Susan Philip MD MPH

Director, Disease Prevention and Control Branch

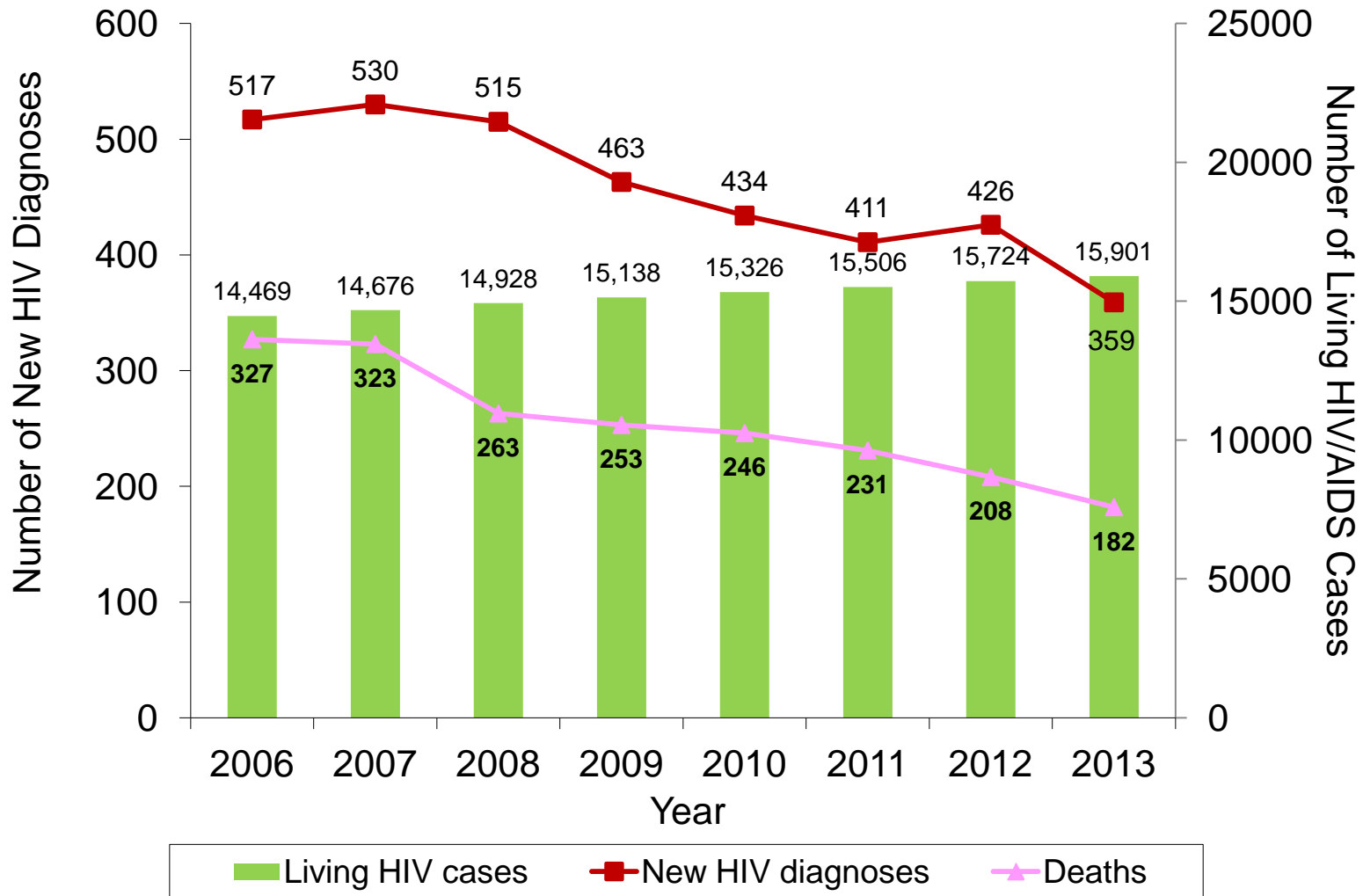
Population Health Division, SFDPH



# Our Vision for San Francisco is Sexual Health for All

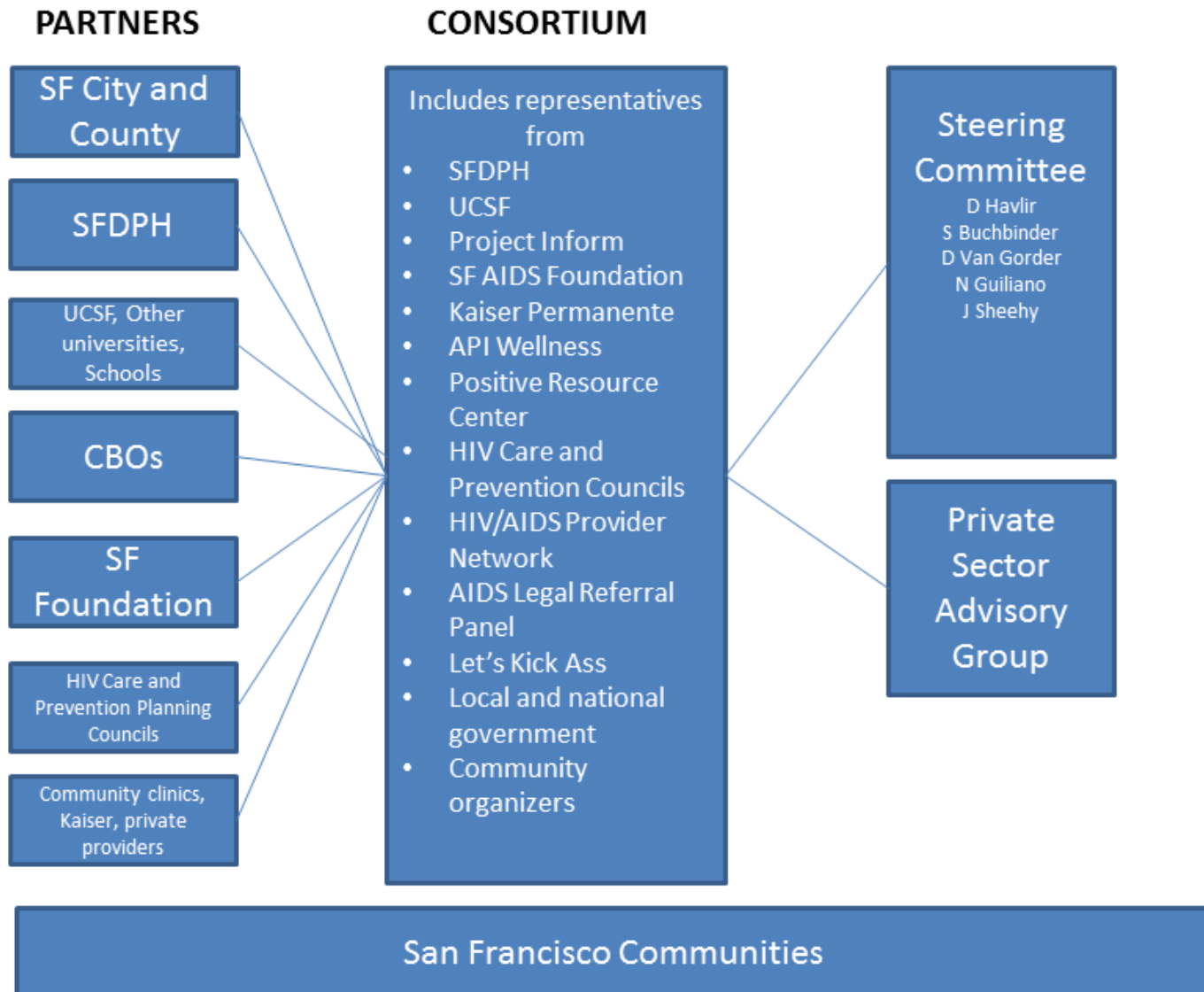
“...sexual health is a state of physical, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality; it is not merely the absence of disease...” (World Health Organization 2006)

# San Francisco is Seeing Signs of Success in Our Fight Against HIV

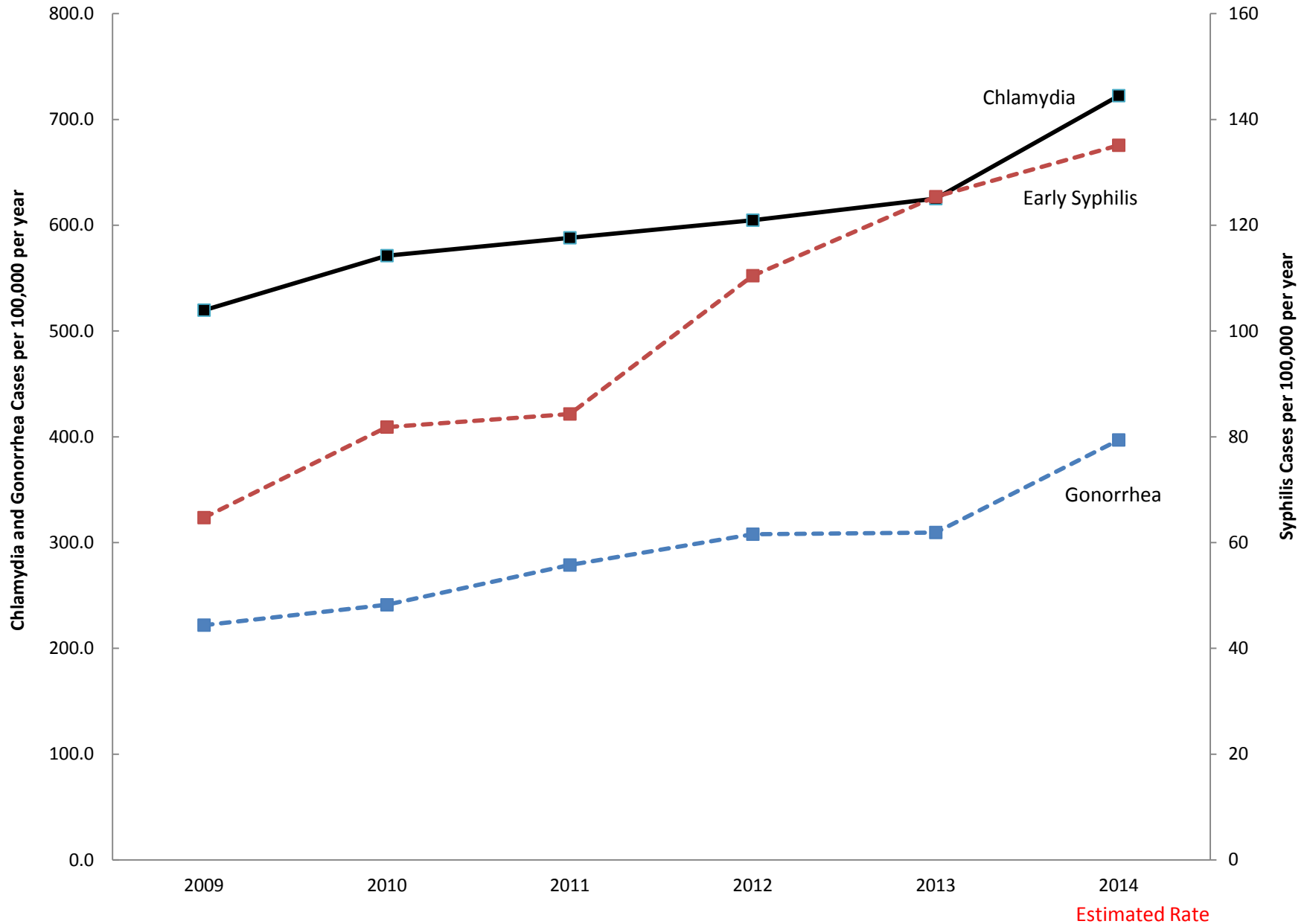


# Getting to **Zero** Consortium

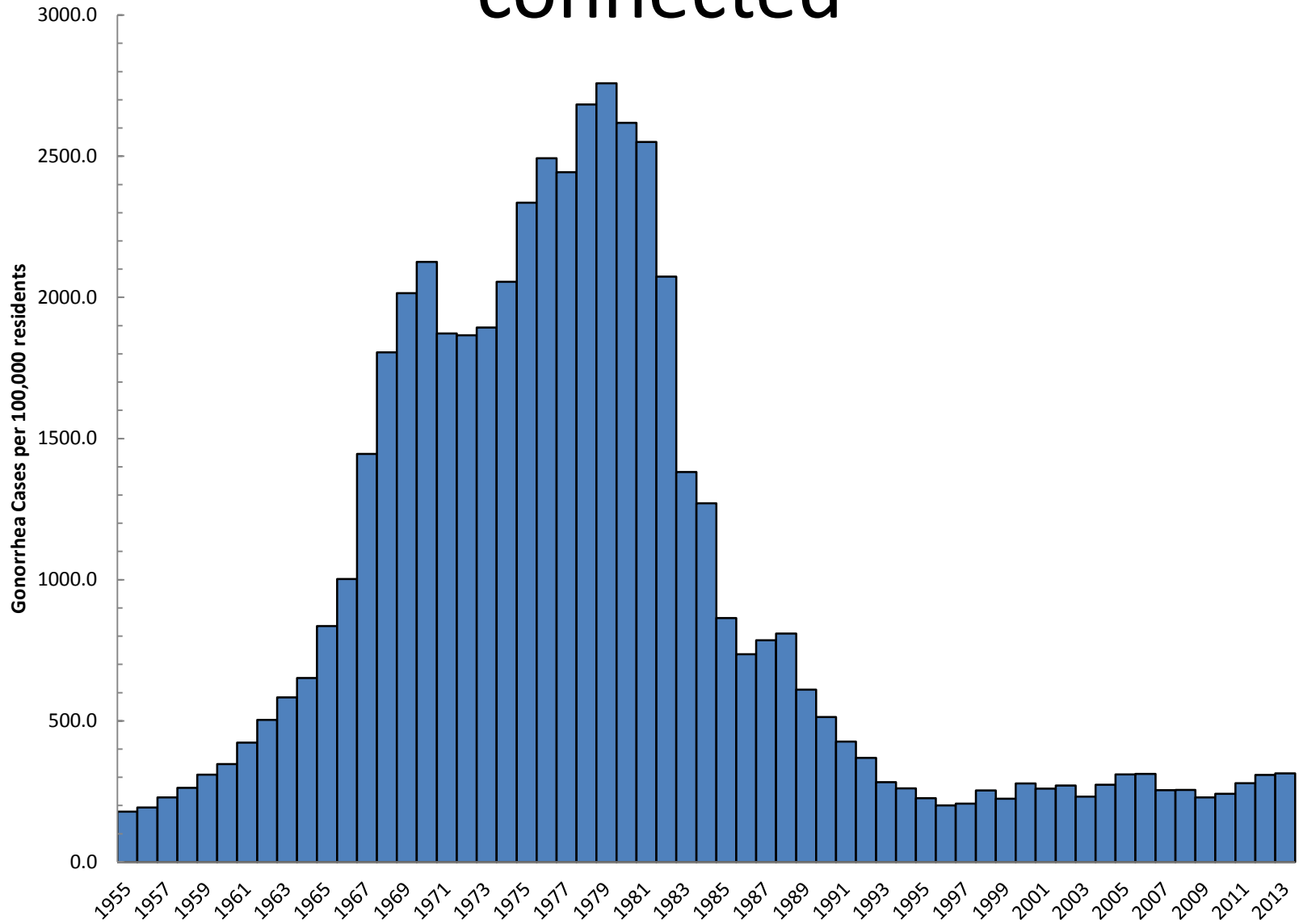
**Zero** HIV infections, **Zero** HIV deaths, **Zero** HIV stigma



# However, STDs are Increasing



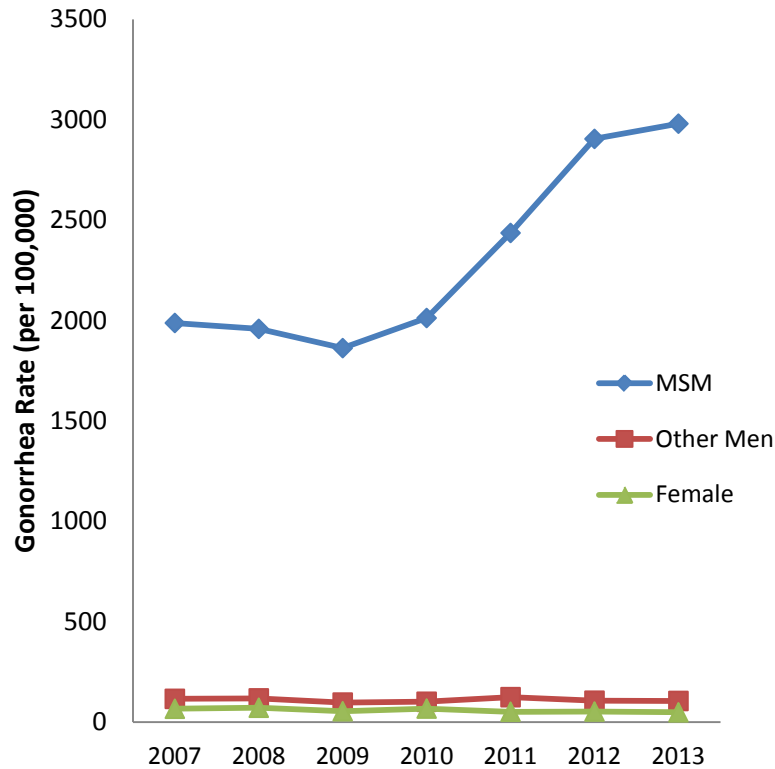
# STD and HIV rates in SF have long been connected



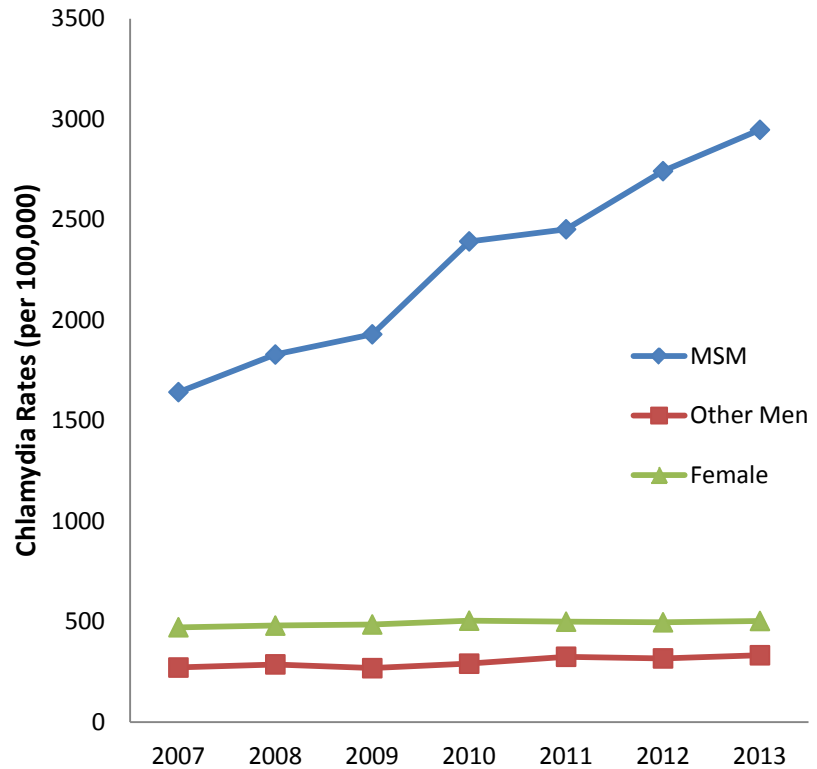
# Populations Disproportionately Affected by STDs in San Francisco Have not Changed

- Gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM)
- African American Adolescents (<25 years)
- Transgender individuals (but limited citywide data)

# STDs disproportionately Affect MSM in San Francisco



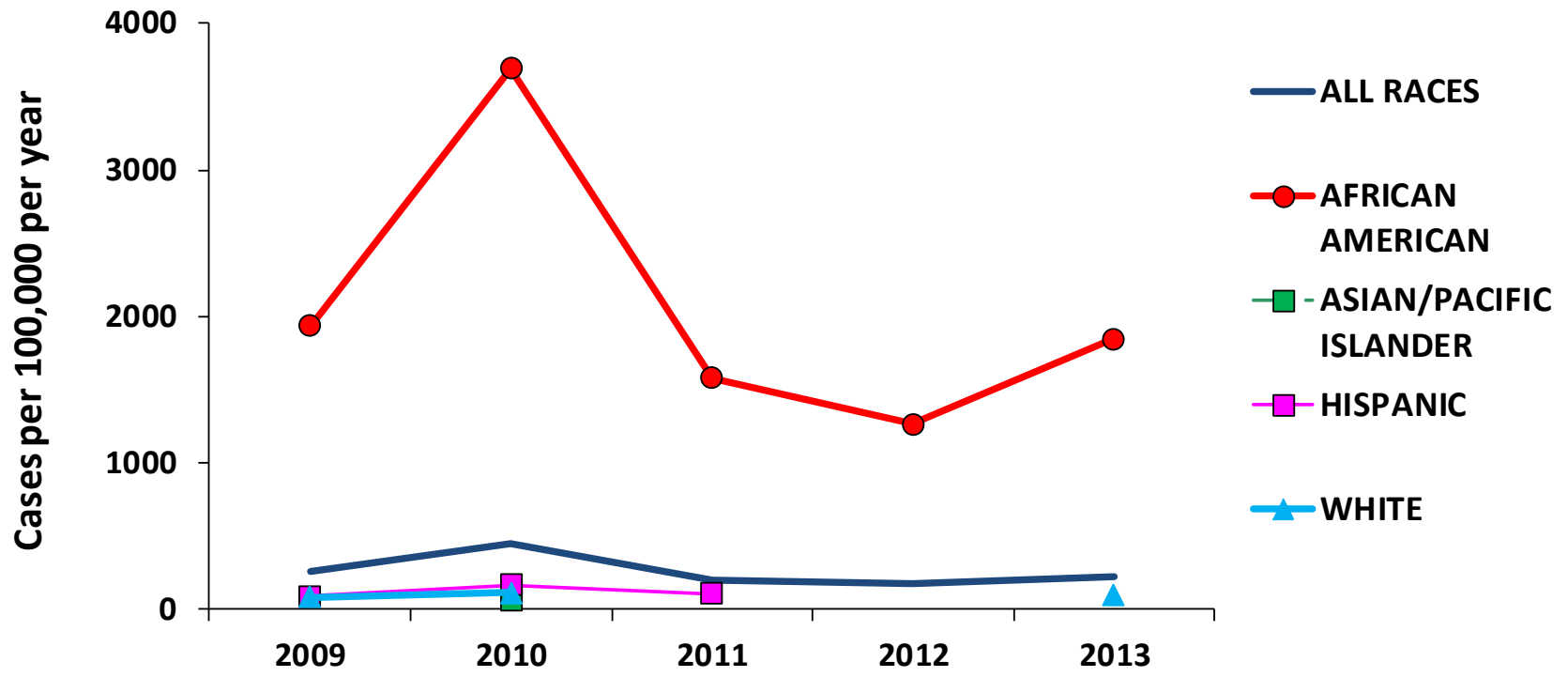
**Gonorrhea**



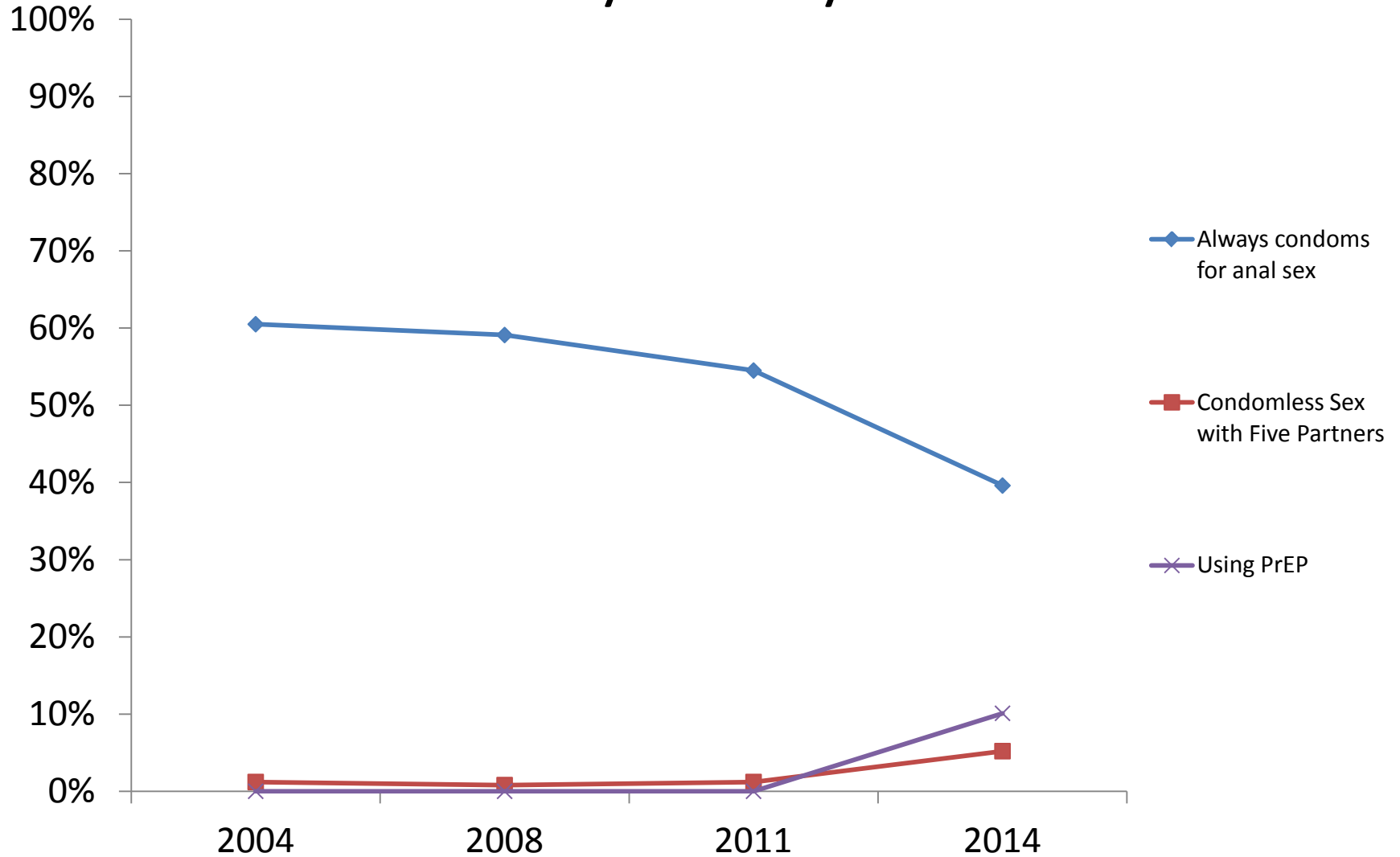
**Chlamydia**



# STDs disproportionately affect Black/African American Adolescents in San Francisco



# Reported Condom use has been Declining over Time in Surveys of Gay men in SF



# SFDPH MSM STD Focus Groups October 2014: Reporting Less Worry about STDs than HIV

- *I have to compare everything to the risk I encounter on the bicycle ride to the encounter [and then] back home, and [riding my bike] I am far more at risk of an immediate fatal event. So everything else just seems [like no big deal] in comparison. [Group 3 (HIV-/STD+)]*
- *When it comes down to it, it happens. It's a part of sex...It's a concern, but I know it's going to happen, I know the way to treat it, and you move on from there. [Group 4 (HIV+/STD+)]*
- *It's just like, go get tested every 2 months or so. If you have something, they'll treat it right away and then it's gone and then nothing happened, you know what I mean? There's like, no change whatsoever. So why worry about it? [Group 4]*

# What Are We Doing Now to Address STDs?

Upstream

Primary

Secondary



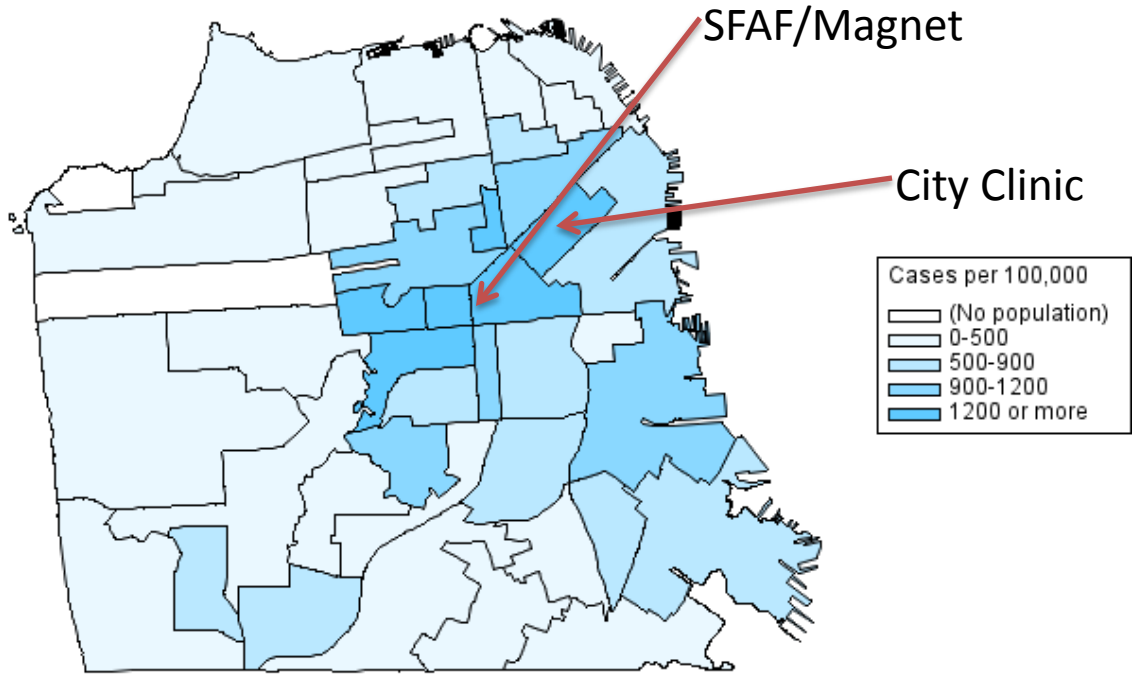
## Continuum of STD Prevention

- Sexual Health Framework
- Understanding other community priorities
- Policy work

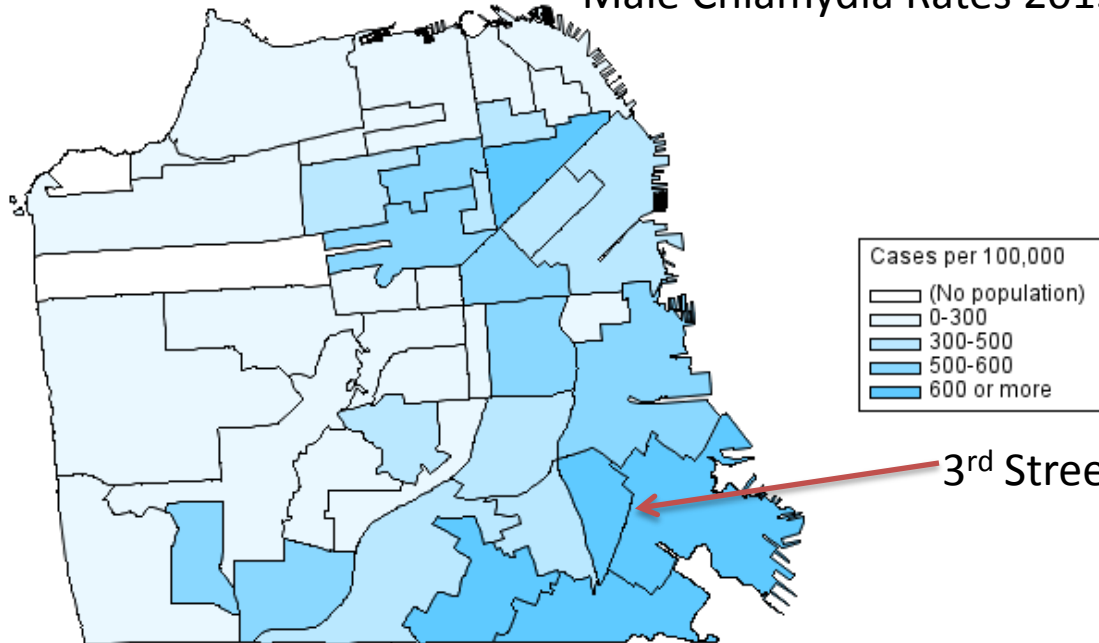
- Prevention at City Clinic, SFAF/Magnet and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Youth Center
- Promote condom use
- Train and support SF clinicians in STD prevention and management

- Partner Notification
- Repeat testing at three months after STD diagnosis
- clinician training and consultation support

Research Agenda (City Clinic): Better Tests, treatments, prevention tools for sexual health



Male Chlamydia Rates 2013



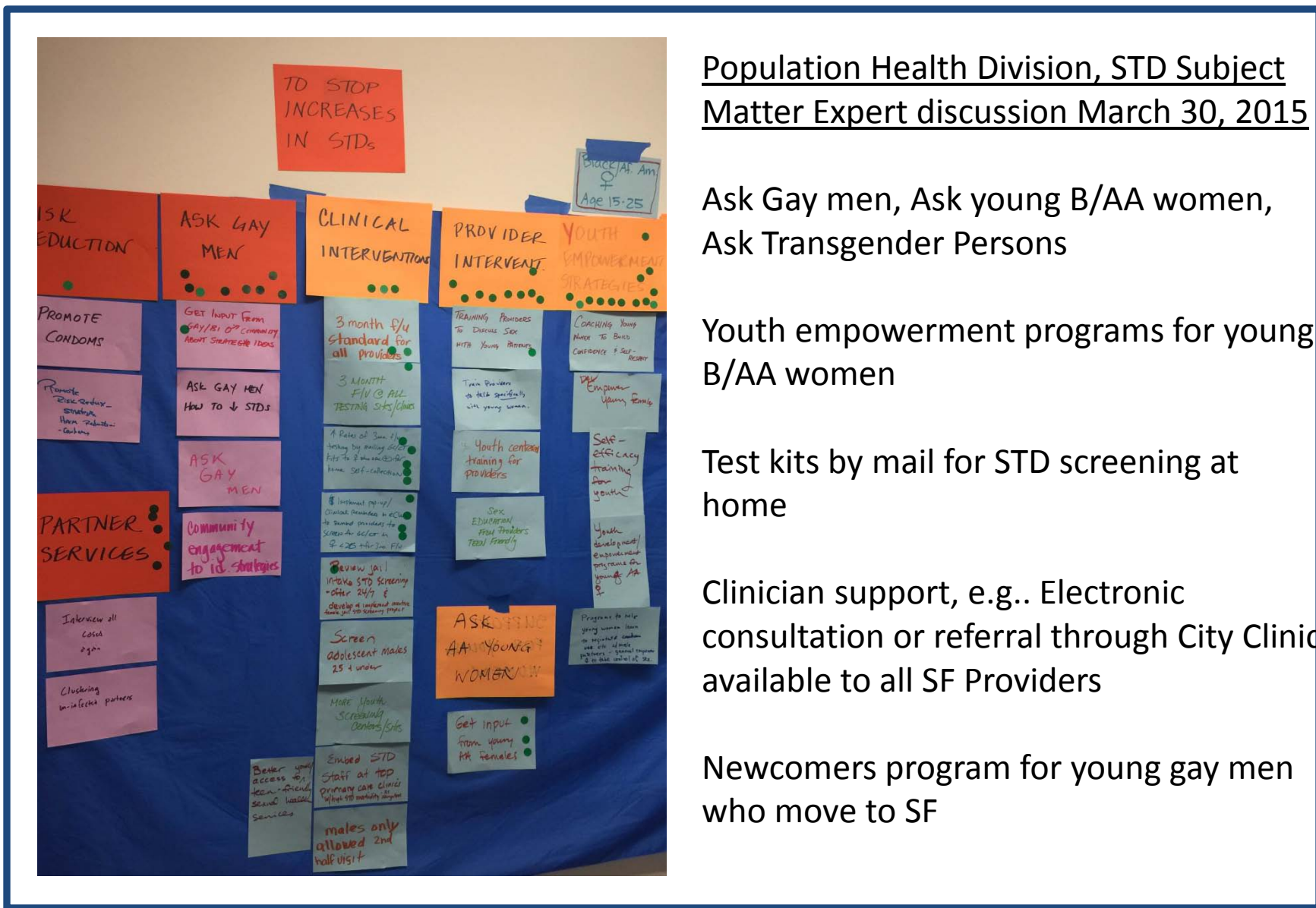
Female Chlamydia Rates 2013

Ensure clinical and prevention services accessible to MSM and adolescents, mapped to highest need neighborhoods

# Taking Steps Now, and Long Term Focus will be Essential

- Focus groups with Black/AA adolescents 15-24, Transgender persons
- Clinical Provider Focus Groups
- Increasing connection to clinical provider networks, including SF Health Network to maximize existing clinical resources and add value where possible (expert consultation, data feedback, technical assistance for pilot programs of expedited partner therapy, home-based screening)

# What Novel Approaches Might Decrease Rates?



Population Health Division, STD Subject Matter Expert discussion March 30, 2015

Ask Gay men, Ask young B/AA women, Ask Transgender Persons

Youth empowerment programs for young B/AA women

Test kits by mail for STD screening at home

Clinician support, e.g.. Electronic consultation or referral through City Clinic available to all SF Providers

Newcomers program for young gay men who move to SF

# Thank you



**POPULATION HEALTH DIVISION**  
SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH