HIV Among Women in Illinois

1 of 5 people living with HIV in Illinois are women

3 of 4 women living with HIV in Illinois acquired HIV through sexual contact with a male partner and 1 of 4 acquired HIV through injection drug use

Women living with HIV are able to give birth to healthy, HIV-negative babies if the mother takes HIV medicine throughout her pregnancy

In 2016, 4 of 5 women diagnosed with HIV in Illinois were Black or Hispanic

Compared to White women, the rate of HIV was 5 times higher among Hispanic women, and 26 times higher among Black women.

Risk factors for HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) are similar. In Illinois in 2016:

- **Gonorrhea**: 4 of 10 cases were among females. Compared to White women the rate was: 1.4 times higher among Hispanic women and 15 times higher among Black women.
- **Chlamydia**: 7 of 10 cases were among females. Compared to White women the rate was: 2 times higher among Hispanic women and 7 times higher among Black women.
- **Syphilis**: 1 of 10 cases were among females. Compared to White women the rate was: 2 times higher among Hispanic women and 16 times higher among Black women.

HIV and STIs among women of color are not influenced by behavioral factors alone. Social factors such as:

- Racism
- Provider Bias
- Stigma
- Limited Access to Medical Services
- Classism

can impact the way that HIV and STIs affect a community