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PRESS STATEMENT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Peggy.Tighe@PowersLaw.com

**RWC-340B Releases New Study: Value of Ryan White Providers
and Impacts Associated with Resource Reduction**

Washington, D.C. – Today, RWC-340B released a data-driven analysis of the potential adverse impact of policies reducing resources to Ryan White clinics. The analysis includes a literature review, white paper, and fact sheet. RWC-340B commissioned a healthcare consulting firm to research the critical role of Ryan White organizations in fighting the AIDS epidemic and to provide an unbiased report.

RWC-340B Treasurer, Mark Malahosky, said, “The facts are clear – policies that reduce resources to Ryan White clinics threaten public health.” He added, “RWC-340B believes that this analysis is strong evidence of what we’ve known all along – without the resources of the 340B program, Ryan White clinics simply can’t continue their fight to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic or battle COVID-19.”

The 340B Drug Pricing Program allows RWC-340B members to leverage their 340B savings to support the full continuum of services needed by the HIV/AIDS population, from diagnosis, to linkage to care, to medication adherence and viral suppression.

The analysis examines access to HIV care and the important role of both the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) and 340B Drug Pricing Program for clients of RWHAP clinics and viral suppression. It also reviews funding sources and policies related to program income for RWHAP clinic grantees, and how, according to modeling by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), elimination of the RWHAP program would undermine progress in controlling the spread of HIV.

The authors reviewed data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the CDC, peer-reviewed papers regarding those data as well as data regarding viral suppression and disparities in care for persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), and legislative history and analysis of the 340B Drug Discount Program and the Affordable Care Act.

Select findings from the study include the following:

KEY DEMOGRAPHICS

- *50% of all PLWHA in the US receive medical care from the RWHAP.*
- *87.1% of RWHAP clients receiving HIV care are virally suppressed, exceeding the national average 62.7% of PLWHA.*

- *Of RWHAP clients, 73.7% from racial/ethnic minorities; 61.3% live at or below the federal poverty level; 71.6% cis male, 26.5% cis female, 1.9% transgender; and 41.6% 50 years and older.*
- *RWHAP clinics have also shown a reduction in disparities in viral suppression rates between demographic groups.*
 - *A study of HRSA RWHAP clinic data comparing 2010 to 2014 found that disparities in viral suppression rates improved between PLWHA ages 13-24 compared with patients older than age 45, and Black/African Americans compared with Whites.*

IMPLICATIONS OF RESOURCE REDUCTION

- *If RWHAP grantee clinics were to lose any sources of funding or reduction in 340B savings, these providers may be compelled to eliminate other services in order to manage costs.*
- *Losing stable access to care, medications, and services could result in a heightened risk for severe illness in PLWHA.*
- *These clinical and non-clinical outcomes suggest that program clients could have negative clinical and non-clinical effects if funding for RWHAP clinics were reduced.*
- *Reduction in resources, including 340B Drug Pricing Program savings, could have long-term consequences for patients served through RWHAP-funded clinics, including disruptions in care and treatment, adverse health outcomes, or increased healthcare expenses.*
- *In addition to the effects on clinics and patients, state and local governments could also see detrimental financial effects.*

To read the white paper [CLICK HERE](#) and the fact sheet [CLICK HERE](#).

Shannon Stephenson, President of RWC-340B said, “The 340B program savings to Ryan White clinics is a vital lifeline for safety net healthcare providers. Without this program or if the program is significantly reduced, federal or state taxpayers would be forced to pick up the tab.”

Ryan White Clinics for 340B Access (RWC-340B) is a national organization of HIV/AIDS health care organizations that receive funding under the Ryan White CARE Act and participate as “covered entities” in the federal 340B drug discount program.