

The experience of Curitiba/Brazil in expanding access to PrEP through teleconsultations and home delivery, with the support of the project A Hora é Agora/ The Time is Now (AHA).

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BACKGROUND

Curitiba, a municipality in the southern region of Brazil, has shown PrEP adherence rates above the national average. This data reflects effective initiatives in prevention and treatment, but the city still faces challenges related to equitable access to services. PrEP has been available in the municipality's Unified Health System (SUS) since 2018, and there are currently 7 PrEP dispensing units. In September 2022, to expand access, the teleconsultation service – TelePrEP was initiated, and in 2024, PrEP at home was available as part of AHA, led by Fiocruz and funded by PEPFAR³.

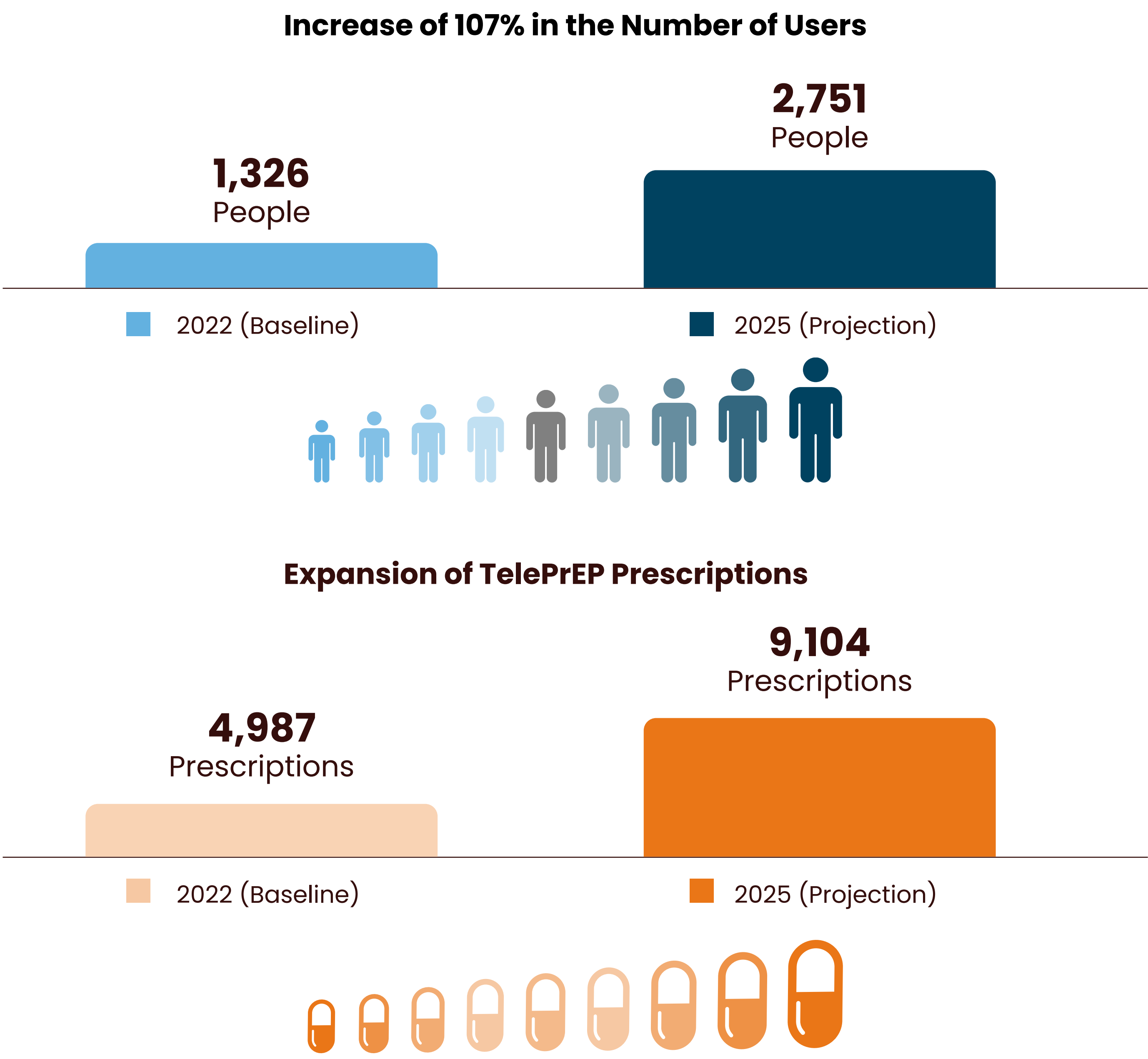


DESCRIPTION

TelePrEP uses the **Central Saúde Já**, with a telehealth team trained in HIV/AIDS and other STIs, serving as an information channel on combined prevention for clients of the SUS network in the municipality. **It offers clinical evaluations, prevention strategies, and prescriptions by phone**, with secure electronic medical records. In March 2024, the **PrEP-delivered-at-home program** began, allowing clients to **receive PrEP and HIV self-test kits at their chosen address to improve adherence among vulnerable populations**.

LESSONS LEARNED

TelePrEP and home delivery enabled an increase from 4,987 prescriptions in 2022 to 9,104 in 2025. The total number of people on PrEP increased by 107% – from 1,326 in 2022 to 2,751 in 2025. This strategy optimized the use of specialized services specialized services for people with advanced disease and other sexually transmitted infections, while healthy individuals accessed care via teleconsultation. HIV self-test allowed many to rule out HIV without in-person visits, reducing the risk of PrEP discontinuation. Since 2024, the Ministry of Health has adopted HIV self-testing for PrEP initiation. Presential services remain accessible to vulnerable individuals seeking PrEP.



CONCLUSIONS/NEXT STEPS

The implementation of TelePrEP has **improved access to HIV prevention in the municipality and allowed service to devote greater attention to other conditions like advanced AIDS**. However, reaching vulnerable groups and people who use psychoactive substances remains challenging. **Strengthening engagement with these communities is essential**, as many are unaware of SUS services and the importance of comprehensive health care.

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