Notes Related to Needs Assessment Data and Calculations

1) All data is taken from ARIES reports. In some situations data for 2002 through 2005 originally came from previous reporting systems (Compis and CareWare). Where data is not entered it is because data was not available. Note that 2005 was a transition year for ARIES and thus that year is excluded from some calculations.

2) The way in which data has been reported in ARIES from year to year is inconsistent, which makes it difficult to record apples to apples data from year to year. For example, in some years OAMC sub-categories Genotype, Phenotype and Other Lab Test were merged into one total and at other times different combinations of sub-categores were merged, such as Lab, Other Lab and Misceleanous Lab. Where data is available for a specific sub-

3) The names applied to service categories has evolved in ARIES acorss time, so it is difficult to be sure that the same service is being tracked. For example, some reports simply list "Housing", while other reports break down various HOPWA services. The name is always distinguishable from Ryan White funded housing service. Because ARIES has changed the names and definition of what is included in a service category over time, some

4) Note that DSHS has not yet released the PLWHA numbers for 2010

5) The methodologies for calculating each of the 5 methods reflected in this worksheet were not well documented. This worksheet was copied from the previous year's calculations, so the formulas for M1 and M2 were simply left in place. The utility of some of the methods is a matter for discussion, especially since some methods result in skewing of the average (see M5). The stratgey is to average all 5 methods. A tab has been created for M3, 4 and 5 to show the data and calcualtions. The 5 methods are:

Method 1 - Use the most recent ARIES utilization data (all funding source) for each service category multiplied by the projected number of clients (see ARIES projection tab for calculations and methodology). Step 1: Take the number of clients utilizing the service multiplied by the total number of clients who utilized (any) RW service to establish the percentage who utilized the service.   Step 2: Multiply the number of people projected

Method 2 - Multiply the number of clients who utilized a service in the most recent ARIES data by the growth

Method 3 - Add the average number of new clients for the most recent two years of ARIES data to the number of unduplicated clients who used the service three years back.

Method 4 - The average number of unduplicated clients utilizing a service for the most recent five years of

Method 5 - Using the most recent Needs Assessment survey which asked clients if they had a need for a service category, multiply the most recent ARIES utilization data by the percentage of clients indicating a need for the

Final Quantification of Need Calculation - calculate the average of all 5 methods