

NASTAD's Viral Hepatitis Program & Policy Initiatives

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Director, Hepatitis

Hepatitis C Medicaid Affinity Group:
In-Person Convening
January 29, 2020
Washington, DC



NASTAD

- NASTAD is a leading non-partisan non-profit association that represents public health officials who administer HIV and hepatitis programs in the U.S. and around the world. **Our singular mission is to end the intersecting epidemics of HIV, viral hepatitis, and related conditions.** We do this work by strengthening domestic and global governmental public health through advocacy, capacity building, and social justice.

Hepatitis

- Boatemaa Ntiri-Reid, Director
- Rita Isabel Lechuga, Senior Manager
- Daniel Czajka, Manager
- Jasmine West, Senior Associate

Drug User Health & Policy and Legislative Affairs

- Drug User Health
 - Laura Pegram, Senior Manager
 - Kirsten Forseth, Senior Manager
 - Lillie Armstrong, Senior Manager
 - Virgil Hayes, Manager
- Policy and Legislative Affairs
 - Emily McCloskey, Director
 - Michael Weir, Senior Manager
 - Garrett Eberhardt, Manager
 - Meredith McCarthy, Intern

NASTAD's Viral Hepatitis Priorities & Programs

NASTAD's Viral Hepatitis Programmatic & Legislative Priorities

- Improve overall hepatitis infrastructure at the national, state, local, territorial, and tribal levels, including comprehensive prevention, active surveillance, testing, and linkage to care
- Grow the viral hepatitis and harm reduction workforce and reduce turnover
- Improve the health of people who use drugs through expansion of harm reduction services and syringe service programs
- Incorporate a health equity lens into approaches to elimination and overall response
- Increase funding for viral hepatitis programs
- Support federal legislation that enhances policies to combat the spread of viral hepatitis

NASTAD's Viral Hepatitis Programs

- Hepatitis Technical Assistance Center (CDC CSTLTS/DVH)
- Hepatitis Testing Partnership and Learning Collaborative (CDC/DVH)
- Curing Hepatitis C among People of Color Living with HIV (HRSA/HAB)
- Hepatitis Appropriations Partnership

OnTAP

Online Technical Assistance Platform

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WELCOME TO ONLINE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PLATFORM!



Enrolled Communities of Practices

ALL

- HIV prevention finance [View](#)
- Hepatitis TA Center [View](#)

Available Communities of Practices

ALL

- Health Systems Integration [View](#)
- Policy & Legislative Affairs [View](#)
- Prevention of HIV [View](#)
- IPW Testing Community [View](#)
- Policy & Legislative Affairs -D2 [View](#)

EVENTS

MESSAGES

August 2019

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TA Request

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT/AGENCY NAME
Test department

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Position/Title

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Online

Request TA ✕

Health Department/Agency Name*

Position/Title

State/Jurisdiction

Prepared By

Requested By

Requested Technical Expertise

Description of Need

Contact Phone Number*

Email*

Time Sensitive Request (Response needed in 24-48 hours to address a critical issue)

Resource Needed By

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Assessing the Needs of Health Departments: Purpose & Methodology

- Developed by NASTAD's Hepatitis team to better understand hepatitis programs and services and identify areas of support to help health departments convene and/or participate in jurisdiction-wide elimination and strategic planning efforts
- Delivered in February 2019 and collected in March 2019
- Collected to guide the implementation of a national technical assistance center to support viral hepatitis prevention and surveillance personnel in state, territorial, and major city/county health departments



August 2019

FINDINGS FROM THE Ending the Viral Hepatitis Epidemics Assessment

Examining Health Department Infrastructure and TA Needs

BACKGROUND The World Health Organization (WHO) has committed to eliminating hepatitis B and C by 2030. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAEM) determined elimination is feasible within the U.S. and provided recommendations and targets for accomplishing this goal. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy (ODIAP) is working to update the National Viral Hepatitis Action Plan to include elimination targets. Despite the momentum underway to plan for hepatitis elimination, there are significant gaps in the current infrastructure at the national, state, and local levels that must be addressed in order to make elimination a reality. In 2019, NASTAD developed and disseminated a comprehensive needs assessment to identify areas of need critical to jurisdiction-specific elimination and strategic planning efforts. The assessment tool explores program strengths, challenges, gaps, and other information critical to grasp and address the unique needs of health department viral hepatitis programs.

METHODOLOGY NASTAD disseminated the Ending the Viral Hepatitis Epidemics: Health Department Infrastructure and TA Needs Assessment ("Hepatitis Needs Assessment") between February and March 2019 to better understand the current state of health department viral hepatitis programs and services. The assessment tool was distributed to health department viral hepatitis programs throughout the nation and covered eight primary topics.

Needs Assessment Topic Areas

- Hepatitis Program Infrastructure
- Community Engagement and Strategic Planning
- Provider Engagement
- Harm Reduction and Prevention
- Epidemiology and Surveillance
- Testing and Linkage to Care
- Care and Treatment
- Stigma

NASTAD received 43 complete assessments from states and directly funded local jurisdictions.

Hepatitis Testing Partnership & Learning Collaborative

Increase the number of people who are diagnosed with hepatitis B and C and linked to care.

- Five-year cooperative agreement with CDC
- Hepatitis Testing Partnership
 - A diverse coalition of stakeholders including health departments, community based organizations, federally qualified health centers, etc.
 - Convenes through a listserv and quarterly webinars to share ideas, lessons learned, resources, and best practices
- Learning Collaborative
 - Group of eight states (AZ, FL, ID, KY, NM, NY, TN and TX) that convenes monthly to facilitate peer learning and technical assistance

**HEPATITIS
TESTING
PARTNERSHIP**

Jurisdictional Approach to Curing Hepatitis C Among HIV/HCV Co-infected People of Color

- Three-year Special Project of National Significance (SPNS) - (September 30, 2016 - September 29, 2019)
 - HRSA • NASTAD • Louisiana • North Carolina
- Goals
 - Cure HCV among co-infected PLWH, focusing on people of color
 - Establish a sustainable HCV care cascade
- Objectives
 - Increase jurisdiction-level capacity to provide comprehensive HCV screening, care, and treatment
 - Increase providers'/clients' HCV knowledge
 - Decrease structural/system-level barriers to screening, care, and treatment

Hepatitis Appropriations Partnership

- Washington, DC-based national coalition
 - Community-based organizations
 - Public health and provider associations
 - National hepatitis and HIV organizations
 - Diagnostic, pharmaceutical and bio-technology companies
- Focus on increasing federal support for viral hepatitis prevention, testing, education, research, and treatment
- Advocate before policymakers and public health officials
 - Congressional meetings
 - Meetings with federal agencies
 - Draft correspondence for increases in federal funding, federal legislation

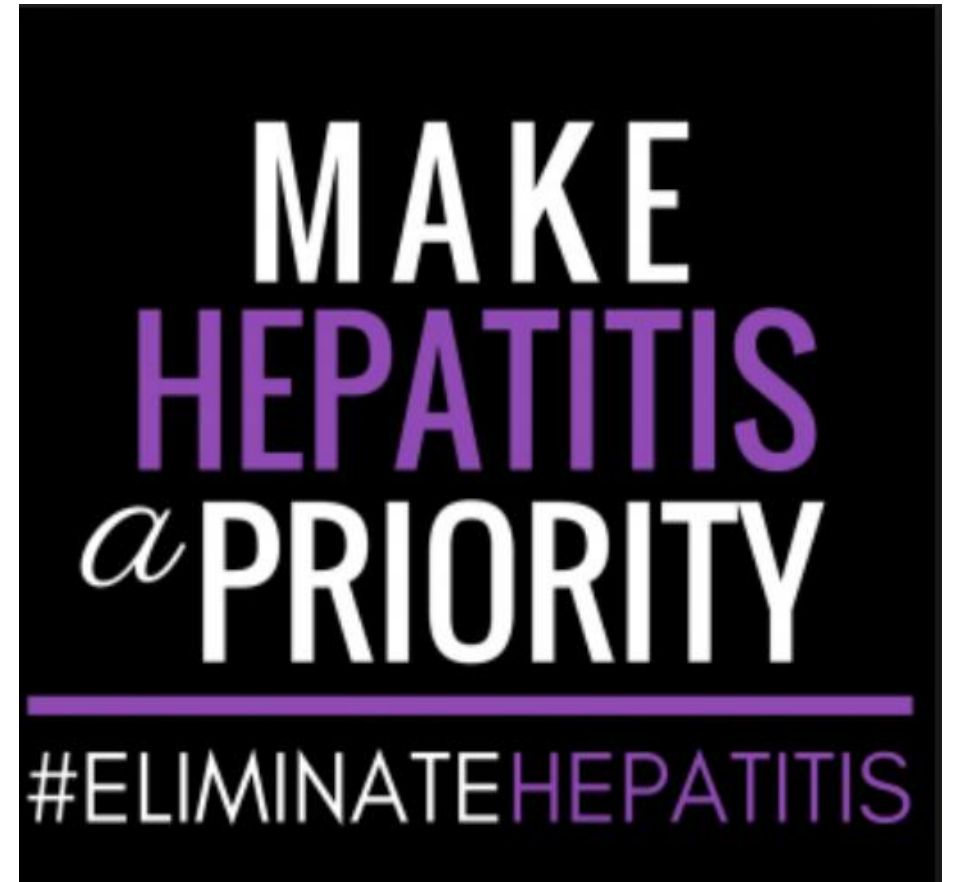


Contact Us

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QUESTIONS?



National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable



The National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable aims to support a comprehensive and integrated response to viral hepatitis in the United States by building coalitions to address communities disproportionately impacted, actively involving persons with lived experience in elimination planning, and advocating for equitable access to prevention and care.

***NVHR has a new home
at HEP, the
Hepatitis Education Project,
A 501c3 nonprofit based in
Seattle***



Annual Meeting
3/31-4/1
Raleigh, NC



What do we do?

National advocacy

- Fighting for increased viral hepatitis appropriations (A, B, C)
- Engaging new partners to address viral hepatitis (e.g. American Cancer Society, National Rural Health Association, Planned Parenthood, Vaccine Advocates)
- Fighting to lift ban on federal funds for syringes
- Educating lawmakers, federal officials, & professional associations
- Supporting federal viral hepatitis partners in any way possible

What do we do?

State-level advocacy

- Supporting state elimination activities
- Engaging community members in viral hepatitis advocacy
- Fighting for removal of illegal prior authorization barriers to HCV treatment
- Connecting clinicians & patients with state officials
- Advocating for comprehensive harm reduction legislation
- Advocating for removal of HBV & HCV criminalization laws
- Advocating for testing and treatment among incarcerated
- Supporting state hepatitis partners in any way possible!

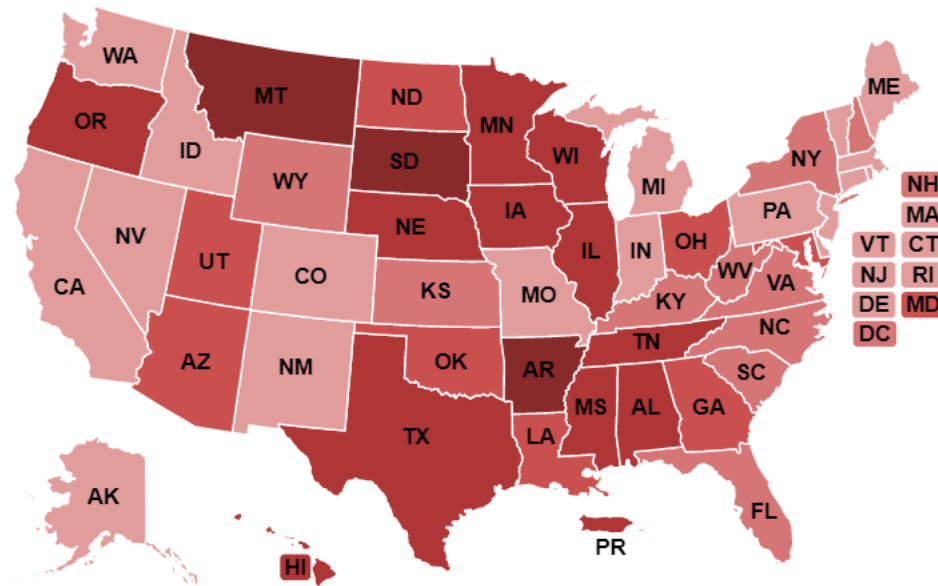
State of Hep C

SEE HOW YOUR
STATE
MATCHES UP

Aiming for straight A's in 2020

How can your state expand
treatment access?

www.Stateofhepc.org



Coming in 2020
State of Hep C
*Corrections
edition!*



CENTER *for* HEALTH LAW
and POLICY INNOVATION
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL



NVHR is working to grow communities of people with lived experience to participate in programming and advocacy.

#voices4hep | voices4hep.org

HCV Patient Summit 2019



HCV Patient Advocates in 2019



AASLD Liver meeting



Liver Cancer Awareness Month



US Conference on AIDS

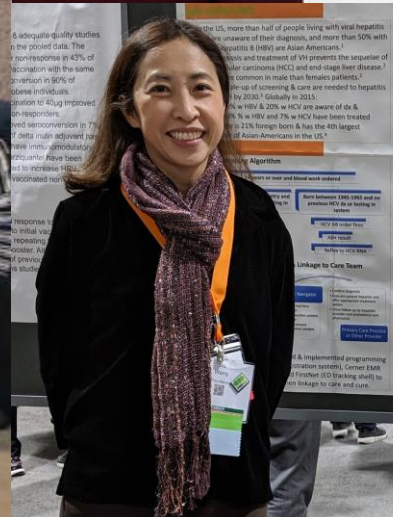


Congressional Hill Briefing



NJ Elimination Summit

Provider Advocacy Network



What barriers do you face in
addressing viral hepatitis?

We love hearing from you.

Email: Lauren@nvhr.org

Social Media: @NVHR1

