



November 18, 2005

It is hard to believe, but the NVHR will soon be two years old. It seems like an eternity has passed since our first meeting in December 2003. Despite the passage of time, there has been no erosion of the spirit and sense of mission of the NVHR member organizations. One of the major changes that has transpired is our move from the CDC Foundation to the Task Force for Child Survival and Development. I encourage you to visit the Task Force web site at www.taskforce.org to learn about this tremendous organization. We now have an actual office with telephone and all the necessary amenities.

Many thanks to our sponsors for continuing to have faith in our mission and goals. As we move into 2006 we expect the level of involvement of all our members to increase substantially. This years sponsors include: Bristol Myer Squibb, Gilead, Roche, Schering Plough, Merck, Valeant and Gen-Probe. If you have an opportunity to thank them for supporting NVHR, please do so.

In an effort to keep you informed of some of the NVHR activities and projects I am providing you with the following update. As always, if you have questions or concerns, please send me an e mail (rconlon@nvhr.org).

Directors Elections:

The electronic election process created by Rose Hessmiller, NVHR Web Manager, was a success. There were a couple of minor glitches, but everyone who wanted to vote was able to do so.

- Election Results

New Directors elected to 3 year terms. Daniel Raymond, Harm Reduction Project

Steve Graham, Hepatitis Education Project, LJ Tan, American Medical Association

Andi Thomas, Hep C Alert

They join, Laurie Schowalter, Molli Conti, Marie Bresnahan, Trish Parnell, Steve Bingham, Michael Ninburg, and Thelma Thiel on the 2005-2006 NVHR Board of Directors. Mr. Joey Weedon, who has served as Secretary to the NVHR Board resigned effective November 25 to accept a position with another organization, The Board Plans to elect new officers during December. In the meantime, Laurie Schowalter will serve as acting Chair and Marie Bresnahan will continue as treasurer.

Policy Update

NVHR's position on the Adult Hepatitis B Recommendations was presented to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) at the October 25, 26 meeting in Atlanta by Deborah Wexler, Sam So, Marie Bresnahan and Dick Conlon. Unfortunately, the ACIP did not agree with NVHR's position and approved the CDC recommendations to continue a risk based approach. There was little discussion before the vote. NVHR will continue to pursue changes in the recommendation.

National Viral Hepatitis Elimination Strategy

We are looking forward to presentation of the approved strategy on December 23, 2005. This effort is the culmination of hundreds of hours of very hard work by everyone involved in writing, editing, and rewriting and re-editing the document. During the first meeting of the new Board of Directors, the Goals/



Recommendations from the Strategy were approved. The final steps of the process include fact checking and filling some of the data gaps in collaboration with CDC, collecting personal stories and anecdotes for inclusion and making the document more readable. Dr. Glenna Crooks is working diligently on the final stages of this project.

CDC Conference: National Viral Hepatitis Prevention Conference, Washington D.C. December 5-9, 2005.

NVHR will be exhibiting at this conference and many of our member organizations and sponsors will be attending.

NVHR is co-sponsoring the **Grassroots Training and Hill Education Day** with Hepatitis C Appropriations Partnership, and the National Hepatitis C Advocacy Council. This valuable training will be of enormous help to everyone in marketing the National Strategy. If you have not yet registered for the conference and the training, please do so today. Go to www.NVHRPC.com.

NVHR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Here is the listing of current NVHR member organizations, associate members, government advisory agencies and sponsors. If you see that one is missing, please contact DickConlon, rconlon@nvhr.org.

Organization

AAPCHO
ACA
Albert Sabin Inst.
ALF
American Academy of Physicians Assistants
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses
American Cancer Society-Chinese Unit, Hepatitis/liver cancer awareness project
American Medical Association
Ann Arundel Co./Communicable Diseases
Asian Liver Center
ASTHO
BMS
Boston NAMA
Boston NAMA
CA.. Dept. of Health
CDC/Division of Viral Hepatitis
CDC/National Immunization Program
Center for Study of Hepatitis C
Center for the Study of Asian American Health
Chiron
Coinfection Project Director, Treatment Action Group
Colorado/Viral Hepatitis Program



Conn./Hepatitis C Coordinator
Director and Vice President of Outreach
Director, Clinical and International Affairs
Div of Pharmacologic Therapies
Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention
Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, SAMHSA, Division of Pharmacologic Therapies
CDC, Division of Viral Hepatitis
Positive Health Project
FAIR Foundation
Federal Bureau of Prisons
Frontline Health Worker Safety
Gen-Probe
Gen-Probe
Gilead Sciences, Inc
GlaxoSmithKline
H.E.A.L.S of N. Georgia
Harm Reduction Coalition
HBV Adoption Support Group
Health Partners, Regions Hospital
Hep B Foundation
Hep B Initiative
Hep B. Support List
Hep C Alert
Hepatitis C Assn.
Hepatitis C Assn.
Hepatitis C Caring Ambassadors
Hepatitis C Strategy Group
Hepatitis C Support Project
Hepatitis Education Project
Hepatitis Magazine
Hep-Can
Hepatitis Foundation International
Hoffman LaRoche
Hope for Hep C
Immunization Action Coalition
IHS Viral Hepatitis Section
Indiana/HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis
Institute on Criminal Justice Health Care,
Iowa Dept. of Health
Julia Spears Foundation
Kaiser Permanente
Liver Research Institute
LiverHope Inc.
LOLA
Maryland Hepatitis C Action
Merck
Michigan/HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention Section
Mike White Associates



Missouri Hepatitis C Alliance
N.D. Dept. of Health
NAACHO
NAMA
NASTAD
NATAP (Natl AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project)
National Assn. of Comm. Health Centers
National Assn. of Hepatitis Task Forces
National Coalition of STD Directors (NCSD)
National Healthcare for the Homeless Council Clinicians' Network
National Hepatitis C Advocacy Council
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
National Medical Association
National Task Force on Hepatitis B
NM/Hepatitis Program
PKIDS
Schering Plough, Washington, D.C.
Strategic Health Policy Int'l.
The AIDS Institute
The Bruckner Group
The Harm Reduction Project
The Hepatitis B Initiative
Therapeutic Communities of America
U of NM
US PHS/Indian Health Service
Utah Dept. of Health
Valeant Pharmaceuticals International
Valeant/Global Marketing and Commercial Development
Veterans Affairs
Washington St. Dept. of Health/Hepatitis C Coordinator