



## April 2009 Newsletter

### In the News

- NVHR & NASTAD Partnership
- Congressional Briefing on Viral Hepatitis
- Send Us Your World Hepatitis Day Information
- Institute of Medicine Study Committee Update
- CDC Resource Update

### 2009 Steering Committee

**Joan Block**

Hepatitis B Foundation

**Bruce Burkett**

Missouri Hepatitis C Alliance

**Jeff Caballero**

Association of Asian and Pacific Community Health Organizations

**Steven Graham (Treasurer)**

Hepatitis Education Project

**Daniel Raymond**

Harm Reduction Coalition

**Andrew Muir, MD**

American Association for the Study of Liver Disease

**Lorren Sandt (Vice Chair)**

Caring Ambassadors Program, Inc.

**Dennis Simon (Secretary)**

Hepatitis C Association

**Litjan Tan**

American Medical Association

**Chris Taylor (Chair)**

National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors

**Deborah Wexler, MD**

Immunization Action Coalition

### Staff

**Martha Saly**

Director  
[mbsaly@nvhr.org](mailto:mbsaly@nvhr.org)

**Mimi Schott**

Administrative Assistant  
[mschott@nvhr.org](mailto:mschott@nvhr.org)

**Rose Hessmiller**

Webmaster  
[rhessmiller@fergusonlynch.com](mailto:rhessmiller@fergusonlynch.com)

**Is your organization a member?**

To join NVHR visit:

[WWW.NVHR.ORG](http://WWW.NVHR.ORG)

---

### NVHR and NASTAD Partner on CDC Cooperative Agreement

NVHR has entered into a new partnership with the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), one of NVHR's founding members under the CDC's Cooperative Agreement for Networking, Partnership and Information Dissemination (V-NET). Through the V-NET, NVHR and NASTAD will leverage the power of a collective voice by mobilizing the dynamic forces of our existing networks to influence viral hepatitis prevention and control in the United States. Chris Taylor and Martha Saly will manage the program for NASTAD and NVHR. We will soon announce a series of conference calls and webinars addressing topics of interest to the viral hepatitis advocacy community.

### Congressional Briefing on Viral Hepatitis

The Hepatitis B Foundation, in partnership with the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (APCHO) and NVHR are hosting a congressional briefing on Capitol Hill on May 19, 2009. The purpose of the briefing is to educate legislators and key policy decision-makers about the global incidence of chronic viral hepatitis infections (600 million people with HBV and HCV worldwide of which about 6 million are Americans) and to inform them particularly of the fatal link between chronic hepatitis infections and primary liver cancer, which is one of the fastest growing cancers in the U.S. and the 3rd leading cause of cancer deaths worldwide.

### Send Us Your WHD Info!

Tell us what you are doing for World Hepatitis Day and Hepatitis Awareness Month and we will post it on the NVHR website calendar. Send the event specifics and contact information to [rhessmiller@fergusonlynch.com](mailto:rhessmiller@fergusonlynch.com)

### Institute of Medicine Report on Viral Hepatitis in the United States

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) Committee on Viral Hepatitis held its second meeting on March 3-4, 2009 in Irvine, California. Presentations from the [1<sup>st</sup> meeting](#) and the [2<sup>nd</sup> meeting](#) can be found on the IOM website. The Committee will continue to meet and expect to release their final report at the end of the year. NVHR will continue to monitor progress and provide updates as available.

### CDC Announces New Resources

The CDC has released two new and updated fact sheets:

[Hepatitis A-B-C Fact Sheet for Health Professionals](#)

[Hepatitis A Fact Sheet for consumers](#)