

NVHR 2017 Accomplishments: *Programs*

More Than Tested, Cured Project – Overcoming Barriers to Hepatitis C Care

NVHR developed and leads the first and only partnership in the country between a national hepatitis organization and three local harm reduction groups to address the most significant personal and systemic barriers to hepatitis C faced by people who use drugs, including stigma. It addresses barriers at three points along the hepatitis C care cascade by educating patients, primary care providers, and specialty providers. This project has shared findings, materials, and lessons learned with the broader community through webinars and a dedicated resource page on NVHR's website. In just the first nine months of the project, NVHR, in partnership with Atlanta Harm Reduction Coalition, People's Harm Reduction Alliance, and Urban Survivors Union, has held three webinars/calls reaching over 100 people each, led a workshop at the International Symposium on Hepatitis Care in Substance Users, and designed a poster presented at the World Hepatitis Summit.

Education & Community Building

NVHR is leading the only project of its kind in the United States to document and synthesize the extrahepatic manifestations of hepatitis C in order to broaden dialogue about the disease as a health condition and expand partnerships with more allied organizations. This project helps community partners, advocates, and patients by distilling the complex medical literature regarding the impact of hepatitis C on other organs in the body.

In partnership with Dr. Stacey Trooskin, Director of Viral Hepatitis Programs at Philadelphia FIGHT, the NVHR project continues to reach a wide audience of physicians and other healthcare providers. The Program Department gave presentations at eight conferences in 2017, organized six webinars with national attendance by community, government, and industry partners (with two additional webinars scheduled by the end of 2017) and reached over 500 participants through calls and webinars. NVHR added 220 new organizational members in 2017, largely driven by proactive recruitment of members through Program webinars, calls, and other outreach.

Innovative, Unique & Multidisciplinary Working Groups

NVHR continues to lead three successful and unique working groups in the hepatitis field and has held over a dozen working group project calls in 2017. NVHR continues to lead a HCV Working Group consisting of community organizations, health care providers, and public health officials sharing best practices in screening and linkage to care. NVHR also continues to lead and grow the only group in the country for pharmacists engaged in viral hepatitis, which focuses on the role of clinical pharmacists and community pharmacies in expanding hepatitis B and C awareness, vaccination, screening, linkage to care, and treatment. This project is particularly important given

the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine's recommendation to expand the role of pharmacists in providing hepatitis B vaccinations as part of its viral

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hepatitis elimination strategy. Finally, NVHR convenes a working group of hepatitis C providers to share clinical, advocacy, and research opportunities and inform NVHR's ongoing programmatic initiatives.

Hepatitis C Project Booster Mini-Grants

NVHR's Hepatitis C Project Booster Mini-Grants enhance the capacity of our members and partners to conduct education, testing, and linkage to care in their local communities. In 2017, NVHR expanded the initiative by providing seven mini-grants in the amount of \$10,000 each for one-year projects. NVHR provides technical assistance throughout the project period, convenes quarterly project calls and collects monthly reports. These mini-grants provide much needed resources and support to organizations conducting hepatitis C work while also providing a forum for awardees to share successes, best practices, and lessons learned. These outcomes will also be shared on the NVHR website and in a national webinar following the end of the grant period.