



NVHR

National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable

NVHR was pleased to join our partners at NASTAD, Hepatitis B Foundation, and Hep B United to host a virtual Viral Hepatitis Policy Summit and Hill Day on February 17 & 18.

Over **100 advocates** from around the country participated in the Viral Hepatitis Policy Summit, making it the largest one ever. The advocates heard from and engaged with CDC & HHS officials on a range of topics, including:

- Viral hepatitis elimination planning
- Health equity
- Strategies to expand hepatitis B & C testing and hepatitis A & B vaccination
- The impact of COVID-19
- Scaling up comprehensive harm reduction and syringe services programs (SSPs) for people who inject drugs;
- And the importance of robust funding.

Several advocacy priorities surfaced during the summit. Advocates highlighted the importance of moving towards universal hepatitis B testing and vaccination; addressing Medicaid barriers and restrictions to treatment and access to care; advancing innovative viral hepatitis testing technologies; addressing stigma and discrimination; supporting people who use drugs; and maintaining a strong health equity lens in our goals and messaging.

Following the summit, advocates met with **three dozen** Congressional offices to educate staffers about viral hepatitis and describe challenges and opportunities in their local communities and states.

[Click here to read about the key takeaways for effective advocacy meetings with Congressional staff.](#)

Keep reading below for the latest updates from NVHR and the viral hepatitis community.

TAKE ACTION

BUILDING COVID-19 VACCINE CONFIDENCE IN THE VIRAL HEPATITIS COMMUNITY

March 2, 6-7 PM ET

REGISTER TODAY



Join NVHR patient and provider advocates on **Tuesday, March 2nd** from **6:00 – 7:00 pm ET** as we work to build COVID-19 vaccine confidence in the viral hepatitis community.

NVHR Provider Advocate Dr. Jay Kostman will provide a 30 minute presentation about the COVID-19 vaccine. He will be followed by a diverse panel of NVHR Patient and Survivor Advocates, who will share their experiences with getting the COVID-19 vaccine and how they're helping build vaccine confidence in their communities.

POLICY UPDATE

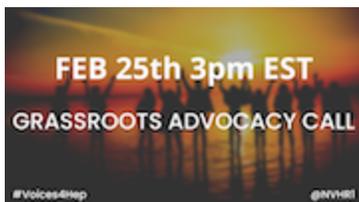
What's next after the Viral Hepatitis Policy Summit & Hill Day?

We have a growing and engaged base of advocates that are united in calling for greater funding and leadership for viral hepatitis elimination. That's why NVHR and our partners will be working in the next few weeks to develop a Dear Colleague letter that Members of Congress can sign onto in support of our funding requests, and relaunching the Congressional Hepatitis Caucus.

Influence Policy & Make Your Voice Heard

We need your help to urge Congress to increase funding for viral hepatitis and public health programs. [Click here to email your member of Congress today!](#)

FROM THE COMMUNITY



February Grassroots Advocacy Call

Join NVHR and advocates across the country at 3 pm EST *this Thursday* to learn about updates in viral hepatitis advocacy and to share progress in your jurisdiction. To add an item to the agenda, email info@nvhr.org.

Thursday, February 25th at 3 pm ET

[Register Here](#)

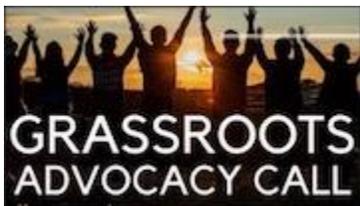


Southern Syringe Services Programs (SSP) and Drug User Health Institute

NASTAD invites you to attend a virtual two-day, regional gathering on harm reduction, syringe services programs, and drug user health.

March 3-4, 2021 from 12:00 – 4:30 pm ET

[Register Here](#)



March Grassroots Advocacy Call

Join us on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 3 pm EST to learn about updates in viral hepatitis advocacy and to share progress in your jurisdiction. To add an item to the agenda, email info@nvhr.org.

Thursday, March 18 at 3 pm ET

[Register Here](#)

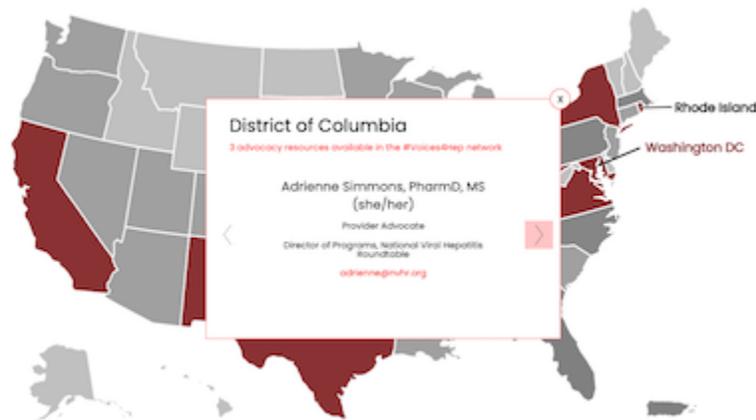
NVHR'S NEW WEBSITE

Earlier this month, NVHR launched a redesigned website that offers more ways for advocates to connect and has more resources than before. Check out some of the newest features:

#Voices4Hep Map

Located on the [Take Action page](#) of the NVHR website is our new #Voices4Hep map. Our network of 200+ patient, provider, and community advocates are interested in taking action in their communities to eliminate viral hepatitis. Some advocates have agreed to share their contact information so that when viral hepatitis community members are looking

for resources in their area, all you need to do is check out [the map](#). Click on the red states to see advocates and resources available to you!



Interested in joining #Voices4Hep?

Click below to add your information to the #Voices4Hep Network.



LATEST NEWS

[OPINION: Rising Hepatitis Rates Present Opportunities for Biden Administration to Strengthen Federal Public Health Response to All Infectious Diseases](#)

[Press Release: Wisconsin and Indiana Remove Barrier to Hepatitis C Treatment for Medicaid Patients](#)

[Press Release: NVHR Announces New Strategic Objectives to Help Guide the Fight to Eliminate Viral Hepatitis](#)





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