#### **Adrienne Simmons**

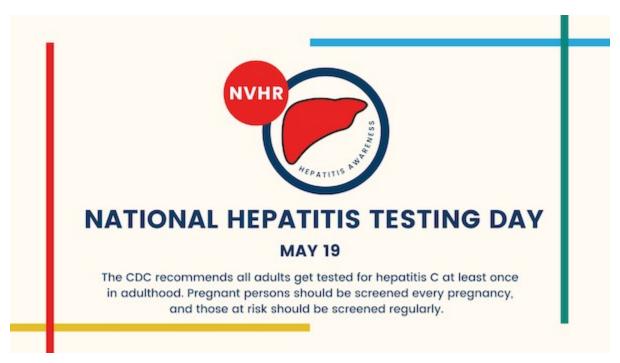
From: National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR) <info@nvhr.org>

**Sent:** Monday, May 17, 2021 3:05 PM

**To:** Adrienne Simmons

Subject: NVHR Newsletter: National Hepatitis Awareness Month





Hepatitis Awareness Month continues with several upcoming events and National Hepatitis Testing Day on Wednesday, May 19. This milestone marks an important awareness opportunity, especially considering the CDC's updated guidelines for all U.S. adults to be screened at least once for hepatitis C.

Here are a few opportunities to get engaged around National Hepatitis Testing Day:

- Join HepVu and the Latino Commission on AIDS on Tuesday,
   May 18 to discuss the impact of Hepatitis C in the United States,
   with specific insights on its impact on the Hispanic/Latinx
   community from 2:00 to 3:00pm ET
- Join NASTAD and CDC's Division of Viral Hepatitis on Wednesday, May 19 for a webinar titled, "...Another Door Opens: Leveraging Untapped Opportunities for Viral Hepatitis Programs in a Post-pandemic World" from 1:00 to 2:00 pm ET
- And round out the afternoon on Wednesday, May 19 by
  joining HepVu, CHLPI and NVHR for a look at treatment barriers
  to Hepatitis C care at the state-level, review of trends over time,
  and discussion on advocating for eliminating treatment access
  restrictions from 3:00 to 4:00 pm ET

See more opportunities to engage and the latest from the viral hepatitis community below.

#### **TAKE ACTION**

## I am #HepAware!

There is no stronger testimonial about the impact of viral hepititis than from those with lived experience. And we want to hear from you!

NVHR is looking for testimonials and stories from advocates in the hepatitis community about moments when you had a positive interaction with someone who is #hepaware.

#### Take Action TODAY!

Share your story with us and you may be featured on NVHR's social media, website, or upcoming newsletter.

**Share Your Story** 

#### **POLICY UPDATE**

Hepatitis C: The State of Medicaid Access. NVHR and the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation at Harvard Law School continue monitoring the state of Medicaid treatment access for patients with hepatitis C. A new progress report detailing the changes over the last few years will be released this week! Keep an eye out and check out <a href="https://www.stateofhepc.org">www.stateofhepc.org</a> for more!

NVHR recently sent a letter signed by more than 120 providers and the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) to Assistant Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine urging her and HHS to to prioritize the treatment of patients with viral hepatitis. The letter detailed four key areas where the government can lead efforts in the fight to eliminate viral hepatitis in the U.S. You can read the full letter here.

The CDC recently announced the next installment of the *Know Hepatitis B* campaign. The campaign seeks to raise awareness of the impact of hepatitis B, especially in the Asian American community. Learn more about the campaign and find educational resources, social media content, and graphics to share <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **IVETTE CHAVEZ-GONZALEZ**

Hepatitis C Advocate | Peer Outreach Navigation Worker





# BARRIERS STILL EXIST TO HEP C TREATMENT FOR LATINO COMMUNITIES

In addition to the stigma and treatment barriers hep C patients regularly face,
Latino communities also often face language and information barriers. ...
It's vital that we identify opportunities to improve linkage to care for all
hepatitis C patients, but especially those in the Latino communities.

Only then will we be able to eliminate hepatitis C in New York.



#NHHAD | www.hispanichepatitisday.org



May 15 was National Hispanic Hepatitis Awareness Day, which is a collective movement aimed at educating and mobilizing Hispanic/Latino communities throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Island to increase their awareness and knowledge of viral hepatitis and its high prevalence in our communities.

NVHR advocate Ivette Chavez-Gonzalez shared her experience advocating within the Hispanic and Latino Communities in Buffalo, New York on NVHR's Blog.

Take a moment <u>to read about the barriers</u> the Latino community faces for hepatitis C treatment.

Read the Blog

FROM THE COMMUNITY



#### Join #MorethanB

The Hepatitis B Foundation recently launched their new campaign: #MoreThanB. The goal of the campaign is to celebrate the lives of those living with or impacted by hepatitis B worldwide.

Hepatitis B might be a big part of our lives, but we want to highlight the other aspects of our lives – our hobbies and dreams, the way we spend our time, the things that make us who we are, outside of hepatitis B.

Share who you are beyond hepatitis B.
Share a few sentences about your life,
hobbies, work, family, friends, and upload a
photo. We will turn your submissions into
social media posts to share on the
Foundation's social media pages.

#### **Learn More**



## The Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination is calling for nominations of local Hepatitis Elimination Champions!

We want to recognize and celebrate the remarkable contributions individuals have made towards improved political commitment, policies and programs that expand access to interventions and accelerate progress towards hepatitis elimination, especially in areas with limited resources. See last year's champions here: <a href="https://www.globalhep.org/champions">https://www.globalhep.org/champions</a>

Nominations close on May 24th. Winners will be announced the week of World Hepatitis Day, July 28, 2021.

#### **Learn More**



### Arizona Hepatitis Awareness Month Proclamation - Call to Action!

A Gubernatorial Proclamation has been signed for the State of Arizona recognizing May 19th, 2021 as Hepatitis Testing Day. Join <u>@AZDHS</u> all day on Tuesday, May 18th in replying, retweeting and sharing the ADHS Hepatitis Awareness Day message, or create your own using #HepFreeAZ.

Read and share the proclamation <u>here</u>.

#### **Learn More**



## Eliminating Viral Hepatitis in Pennsylvania: Mobilizing Partners and Addressing Syndemics through Micro-Elimination

This Hepatitis Awareness Month, join NACCHO for a webinar highlighting how state and local health departments in Pennsylvania are mobilizing partners to eliminate viral hepatitis and tackle the syndemic of viral hepatitis, HIV and other STIs, and substance use.

#### Tuesday, May 18 at 12 pm ET

#### **Register Here**

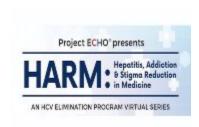


# NHHAD: The Impact of Hepatitis C in the United States

HepVu and the Latino Commission on AIDS discuss the impact of Hepatitis C in the United States, with specific insights on its impact on the Hispanic/Latinx community. The webinar provides: information about HepVu and hepatitis C in the U.S.; information about the demographics of hepatitis C in the U.S.; and an overview of HepVu site and how to use it.

Tuesday, May 18 at 2 pm ET

**Register Here** 



# HARM: Hepatitis, Addiction & Stigma Reduction in Medicine

Join the Louisiana Department of Health and Ochsner Health System for an HCV elimination program virtual series on Hepatitis, Addiction & Stigma Reduction in Medicine.

Wednesday, May 19 at 11 am ET

Register Here



# Another Door Opens: Leveraging untapped opportunities for viral hepatitis programs in a post-pandemic world

Please join us in a virtual discussion among viral hepatitis program stakeholders to assess COVID-19's impact on viral hepatitis program delivery and elimination efforts, as well as challenges and opportunities for advancing hepatitis elimination efforts.

The webinar will feature an overview of the state of viral hepatitis from leaders from the CDC Department of Viral Hepatitis and additional presentations from viral hepatitis advocates, including NVHR's Public Health Advisor Lauren Canary.

Wednesday, May 19 at 1 pm ET

**Register Here** 



# Webinar: Visualizing Hepatitis C Treatment Restrictions

Join HepVu, CHLPI, and NVHR on an upcoming webinar to discuss treatment restrictions as barriers to Hepatitis C care, trends over time, how to advocate for eliminating these restrictions, and prime examples of how these restrictions harm people.

Panelists include NVHR's Adrienne Simmons, CHLPI's Phil Waters, and Dr. Lynn Taylor, with moderation by Heather Bradley, PhD, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, Georgia State University.

#### Register Here



#### **NVHR Grassroots Advocacy Call**

Please join us to learn about updates in viral hepatitis advocacy and to share progress in your jurisdiction. This call will feature special Hepatitis Awareness Month information and updates. To add an item to the agenda, email <a href="mailto:info@nvhr.org">info@nvhr.org</a>.

Thursday, May 20 at 3 pm ET

Register Here

#### **FEATURED TOOL KITS**

NVHR offers advocates and the viral hepatitis community various resources to be used for advocacy and education in your community. This month, NVHR launched two new tool kits focused on helping to get the word out about hepatitis awareness.

#### Hepatitis Awareness Proclamation Tool Kit

Proclamations from a governor, mayor, city council, or other levels of government are useful tools for raising awareness of an issue and for gaining public recognition. The tool kit provides best practices for requesting a proclamation to publicly recognize hepatitis awareness in your community. Read more.

#### Communicating Policy Updates Tool Kit

The <u>tool kit</u> outlines general best practices for publicizing policy updates that may affect the viral hepatitis community. <u>Read more</u>.

**More Resources** 

## **LATEST NEWS**

Real World Health Care: <u>May Is Hepatitis Awareness Month</u>

