

# 2023

## YEAR IN REVIEW

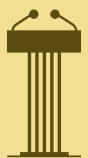
In 2023, we celebrated two whole decades of NVHR, as well as the thirtieth anniversary of our parent organization, the Hepatitis Education Project. Fittingly, we spent a fair bit of time looking back, but we also looked to the future with the help of our new Executive Director, Apoorva Mallya. As we step forward into a new year and an exciting new era, here are some highlights to remember 2023 by:



Through work with CHLPI on [Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access](#), we paved the way for at least 9 jurisdictions to remove prior authorization in 2023!



In partnership with NASTAD and NACCHO, we facilitated the first HepNET learning community, focused on strengthening partnerships between health departments and harm reduction organizations.



In collaboration with HBF, we organized the inaugural Quarterly Hepatitis Roundtable, where senior White House officials presented their vision for enacting a national elimination plan to the viral hepatitis community.



Voices4Hep advocates were featured in pieces from NPR and CNN about new CDC data showcasing major gaps in linkage to hepatitis C treatment.

### 2023 FEDERAL MILESTONES

- White House proposed first-ever national hepatitis C elimination initiative
- CDC updated their recommendations to include HBV testing for all adults
- CDC updated their recommendations on hepatitis C testing among perinatally exposed infants and children
- CDC released new data showing that only 1 in 3 people diagnosed with HCV have been cured
- OIDP shared research findings on payment and reimbursement models for integrating viral hepatitis services

## We grew the power of our grassroots advocacy network

- Engaged a record number of advocates in our Grassroots Advocacy Calls around issues such as hepatitis C vaccine development, high-impact settings for care, and Section 1115 reentry waivers
- Convened the Viral Hepatitis Diagnostics Working Group to push for viral hepatitis point-of-care diagnostic tests
- Partnered with advocates to spread awareness about viral hepatitis through interviews, social media, and videos
- Connected with advocates and partners in-person at AASLD's The Liver Meeting, the Hep B United Summit, and NASTAD's Southern Syringe Services Programs Institute

## We helped lead the viral hepatitis community in elimination advocacy efforts

- Engaged the White House, Congress, and federal officials about viral hepatitis policy priorities
- Led the first HepNET learning community focused on strengthening partnerships between health departments and harm reduction organizations
- Supported research efforts on drivers of disparities in hepatitis C screening and treatment
- Improved tracking and visualization of barriers to HCV treatment access in Medicaid programs and sent letters to more than 20 State Medicaid Directors in states where prior authorization barriers persist
- Reached a milestone of at least 27 states removing prior authorization for most patients
- Published three new HCV treatment resources on treatment costs, genotyping, and pre-release Medicaid coverage in prisons and jails

## We strengthened our national coalition & strategic partnerships

- Shared leadership in key federal viral hepatitis advocacy coalitions, including the Hepatitis Advocacy Work Group and Hepatitis Appropriations Partnership
- Co-hosted Unlocking HCV Care in Key Settings and published a report summarizing the symposium in collaboration with NASTAD and CDC
- Co-hosted a virtual summit on Eliminating Viral Hepatitis Among People Who Use Drugs in Appalachia in collaboration with Community Liver Alliance
- Advised the development of a toolkit on viral hepatitis elimination planning resources in collaboration with the O'Neill Institute and the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation
- Amplified new CDC research that breakthrough cures fail to reach most Americans in collaboration with NVHR Voices4Hep network
- Co-hosted the inaugural Quarterly Hepatitis Roundtable in collaboration with Hepatitis B Foundation