

# Hep Free NYC 2019 Year in Review

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# January - April

- See the 2018 NYC hepatitis B and C navigation and training program reports: [NYC Viral Hepatitis Initiative Report, Check Hep B Patient Navigation Report , Hep C Peer Navigation Report and the Check Hep C Patient Navigation Report.](#)
- Hep B Coalition meeting: Hep B Elimination Discussion - April 17
  - Discussion is follow up to Letter to the Governor requesting Hep B be included in a NYS Hepatitis Elimination Strategy – August 2018
  - During the April 17th Hep B Coalition meeting, there was an Hep B Elimination planning activity based on [this worksheet](#) to gain input from Hep B Coalition participants. Summary of the partner input [here](#).

# May - June

- Hep Free NYC Awareness Event on Steps of City Hall – May 15
- **New York State Hepatitis C Elimination Task Force Update:** Since last Fall, Hep C Elimination Task Force members have been participating in workgroups to develop recommendations on: [Prevention, Testing and Linkage to Care, Care and Treatment Access, Social Determinants of Health, and Surveillance and Data Metrics](#). The Task Force met in Albany to finalize their recommendations on June 4, 2019.
- FY 2020 NYC Viral Hepatitis Initiative Budget Proposal [here](#) and one pager [here](#).
- Presentation on Hep C Elimination for Hep B Coalition to serve as model/guidance. - June 19
- New York City Council released the [FY 2020 Budget](#) and funded the [Viral Hepatitis Initiative](#) - once again! View the public budget [here](#). (pg 82).

# Summer/Federal

- Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez (NY) introduced the **H.R. 3016 Liver Illness Visibility, Education, and Research ([LIVER](#)) Act of 2019**, which includes provisions to fund liver cancer and liver disease research and prevention programs; 9 cosponsors – [see list](#)
- **Res. 331/ S. Res. 177 - [Adult HBV Vaccination Awareness Day Resolution](#)**: Expressing support for the designation of April 30 as “National Adult Hepatitis B Vaccination Awareness Day”.- 10 co-sponsors in the House – [see list](#); 1 co-sponsor in the Senate – [see list](#)
- Hep Free NYC delegation including Charles B Wang Community Health Center, African Services Committee, Coalition against Hepatitis in People of African Origin (CHIPO) NYC, Korean Community Services, NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health attended the 2019 Hep B United Summit in Washington D.C., including meeting with Local representatives - July

# October - November

- [Bronx Hep C Town Hall: What is New York doing to end Hep C?](#) @ Argus Community Center - October 18.
- Hep C Elimination Among People Who Use Drugs: Greg Dore, Kirby Institute – Nov 12
- Advocacy Training – Nov 20

# NYC Council

- **Health Committee Chair Levine announced the introduction of Eliminating Viral Hepatitis in NYC ([Int 1703-2019](#)) in October:**  
The proposed legislation would require the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to develop a plan to eliminate viral hepatitis in New York City by the year 2030 – bill withdrawn
- **Joint Health and Hospitals Committee Hearing on HIV/Viral Hepatitis response:** testimony by DOHMH and some community groups – Dec. 9th

# 2020

- **Join the Hep Free NYC email listserv!**
- Bronx Community Listening Session @ Argus – January 8, 2020 2PM-4PM
- Advocacy leads for each program for FY 21 will be:
  - Overall Lead: Reed Vreeland, Director of NYC Community Mobilization, Housing Works – [r.vreeland@housingworks.org](mailto:r.vreeland@housingworks.org).
  - Check Hep B: Paul Lee, Project Coordinator/Grant Specialist, Korean Community Services – [plee@kcsny.org](mailto:plee@kcsny.org)
  - Check Hep C: Courtney Dower, Program Manager, Dept. of Family Medicine, BronxCare – [cdower@bronxleb.org](mailto:cdower@bronxleb.org)
  - Hep C Peer Program: Mike Selick, Hep C Training & Policy Manager, Harm Reduction Coalition – [selick@harmreduction.org](mailto:selick@harmreduction.org)
  - Empire Liver Foundation (ELF): Joy Cambe, Program Coordinator, ELF – [joycambe@empireliverfoundation.org](mailto:joycambe@empireliverfoundation.org)
  - Hepatitis C Mentoring and Support Group (HCMMSG): Ronni Marks, Founder, HCMMSG – [ronnimarks24@gmail.com](mailto:ronnimarks24@gmail.com)