



HEP FREE NYC

VIRAL HEPATITIS PREVENTION INITIATIVE (VHI)

- Since 2014, the Viral Hepatitis Prevention Initiative has been funded by NYC Council to promote hepatitis B and C screening, treatment, and prevention.
- On June 30, 2024, the NYC Council published the [FY2025 Adopted Expense Budget](#).
- The NYC Council designated \$2,158,190 to Viral Hepatitis Prevention Initiative providers and will designate an additional \$89,264 post-adoption via transparency resolution.



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ADVOCACY SEASON KICKOFF EVENT

- On November 20, 2024, the Hep Free NYC Advocacy Committee Leadership hosted the Advocacy Season Kickoff event.
- 36 people attend virtually.
- NYC Council Member Keith Powers joined to share about the importance of civic engagement.
- At the meeting:
 - Advocates shared their stories:
 - We reviewed the advocacy season calendar and ways community members can get involved.
 - Anthony Feliciano from Housing Works led a power mapping exercise.



FY26 ADVOCACY SEASON TIMELINE

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2024



Share upcoming events with your Council Member

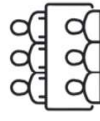
Identify your council members, invite them to upcoming community events and request a meeting so you can share your hepatitis programs

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2025



Complete FY26 Application

Attend the Funding Application Training on January 8 to strengthen your application



Attend the VHI Educational Briefing for City Council Members

Attend and educate City Council members on investing in viral hepatitis programs

MARCH-APRIL 2025



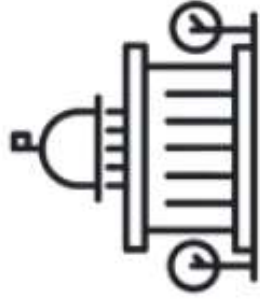
Speak Up At Committee Hearings

Develop oral or written testimony to present at the hearing



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JAN-FEB ADVOCACY GOAL: DISCRETIONARY FUNDING APPLICATION



Complete FY26 Application

Attend the Funding Application Training on January 8 to strengthen your application

Find out who submits your org's city application

Attend the training: January 8 @3PM

Attend VHI Leadership Office Hours for tips on strengthening your application



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NEXT STEPS

- Find out who your NYC Council Member is and invite them to events!
- Save the date for the Advocacy Committee Funding Application Training on January 8 at 3:00pm
 - Find out who in your organization submits the application and encourage them to attend!
- Plan to attend the New York State Hep C Legislative Education Day in Albany on February 4 (Organized by the Hep C Elimination Coalition: NYC Chapter)
- Plan to attend the NYC Council Educational Briefing on Viral Hepatitis scheduled for February 25, 26, or 27 (TBD)



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VIRAL HEPATITIS LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Check Hep C: Kenia Liriano, Community Health Action of Staten Island
- Check Hep B: Julie Yoshimachi Charles B Wang Community Health Center
- Emily Li, Korean Community Services,
- Hep C Peer Navigation: Jose Martinez, National Harm Reduction Coalition; Jeannine Garriga, BOOM!Health
- Training: Joy Cambe, Empire Liver Foundation; Mike Selick, National Harm Reduction Coalition; Robert Desrouleaux, Hepatitis C Mentor and Support Group
- Advocacy: Meg Chappell, Empire Liver Foundation
- Advisor: Ronni Marks, Hepatitis C Mentor and Support Group; Anthony Feliciano, Housing Works; Ellie Goldfarb, Housing Works



QUESTIONS

Contact Meg Chappell at:

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