

2024 HEPATITIS AWARENESS MONTH EVENT REPORT

"Viral Hepatitis Initiative"

Commemorating:
Hepatitis Awareness Month
National Hispanic Hepatitis Awareness Day (May 15)
National Hep C/HIV Co-infection Day (May 17)
National Hepatitis Testing Day (May 19)

hispanicfederation



To mark National Hepatitis Awareness Month in May, in addition to National Hispanic Hepatitis Day Hispanic Federation (HF), the nation's premier Latino nonprofit membership organization, together with New York City's Department of Health, and a diverse coalition of community-based organizations teamed up for a press conference on the steps of City Hall on Thursday morning to call for increased testing, access to care, and treatment of viral hepatitis citywide.

Viral hepatitis attacks the liver and can cause serious health problems. Hepatitis B and C disproportionately affects Latino, Asian, African, and African American communities, as well as the LGBTQ+ community, people who inject drugs, and formerly or currently incarcerated men and women. Specifically, Latinos see higher rates of death from hepatitis C compared with white counterparts. The national rate of hepatitis C-related deaths for Latinos was 4.64 per 100,000, higher than the overall national rate of 3.72 per 100,000 hep C deaths as recently as 2018.

MISSION

Since the beginning of May, the HepFreeNYC task force, which consists of community-based organizations and health advocates, have coordinated trainings and social media chats to bring together their network of advocates, doctors, and service providers dedicated to building capacity to prevent, manage, and treat hepatitis B and C in New York City.

HEP FREE NYC



TWITTER CHAT (X)

#HepFreeNYC Twitter Chat

For our 12th annual Hep Free NYC Awareness Event, we hosted our first ever #HepFreeNYC Twitter Chat on May 8 @2PM to commemorate Hepatitis Awareness Month, National Hepatitis Testing Day & Hispanic Hepatitis Awareness Day!

MISSION

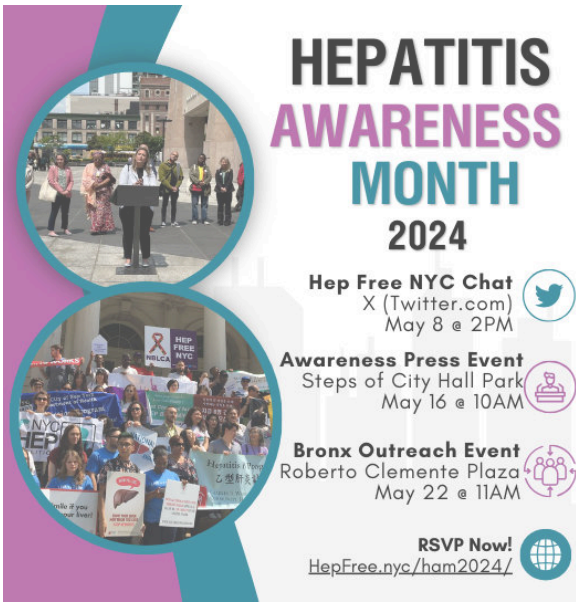
To engage elected officials, state and national partners, service providers and public health professionals.

Hashtags

#HepatitisAwarenessMonth
#UniversalScreening
#HepElimination
#HepFreeNYC
#HepElimination
#LiverHealth
#AfricanServices
#HepC
#nhhad
#HepatitisC
#HCV
#HepatitisB

Thank you

@Adeebasaurus
@CBWCHC
@NHHAD2024
@Mike_Selick
@MountSinaiLiver
@bailproject
@AACOMmunities
@HepFreeNYC
@REACHProgramNYC
@hepatitisCmsg
@START_NYC
@NYCHealthSystem
@AfricanServices
@LiverEmpire
@HispanicFed



Questions & Metrics

Q1-Who is your City Council Rep/Congressperson and your key hepatitis champions? what are they doing to address Hep B and C in NYC? Who would you like to engage more in your world (Tag them here!)

• 372 views • 3 reposts • 3 likes

Q2-What should service providers, public health practitioners, and elected officials know and be concerned about Hep B and Hep C? How are Hep Free NYC Champions addressing the risk factors?

• 400 views • 4 reposts • 3 likes

Q3-What can service providers, public health practitioners, and elected officials do to prevent Hep B and Hep C? How do navigators and peer workers protect their patients' health, and community and prevent liver cancer?

• 314 views • 5 reposts • 3 likes

Q4-Viral hepatitis is severely underfunded, minimizing efforts to prevent and treat Hepatitis B and C. How would funding ensure the end of the hepatitis C and B epidemics?

• 506 views • 2 reposts • 2 likes

Q5-How do we address the disparities in Hep B and/or Hep C and what are your best practices to engage communities, partners and elected officials?

• 162 views • 1 reposts • 2 likes

Q6-How do we increase access to Hep B Vaccination & Treatment and Hep C Cure for New Yorkers? What progress has been made? Where are the changes happening?

• 500 views • 3 reposts • 7 likes

Q7-What is needed to eliminate #HepB & #HepC in NYC? What are the current policies, asks and resources needed to treat every person living with Hep B and cure every person living with Hep C in #NYC?

• 350 views • 2 reposts • 4 likes

Q8- The NYC Viral Hepatitis Elimination by 2030 Plan is 3 years in. What goals are champions/organizations working on to address in 2024?

• 240 views • 2 reposts • 5 likes

Q9-Highlight your Hep B/C accomplishments! What partnership/collaboration ideas would you love from service providers, public health practitioners, and elected officials (tag them!)? What are new updates or upcoming programming?

• 314 views • 5 reposts • 3 likes

Thread: https://twitter.com/HispanicFed/status/1788268880764563775



Hispanic Federation, NY Department of Health, and a diverse coalition of community-based organizations teamed up for a press conference on the steps of City Hall on Thursday morning to call for increased testing, access to care, and treatment of viral hepatitis citywide.

Thank you!

Elected officials:

- **Eric Bottcher**, *District 3*
- **Lynn Schulman**, *Dirstict 29*
- **Chris Banks,** *District 42*
- **Chi Osse,** *District 36*

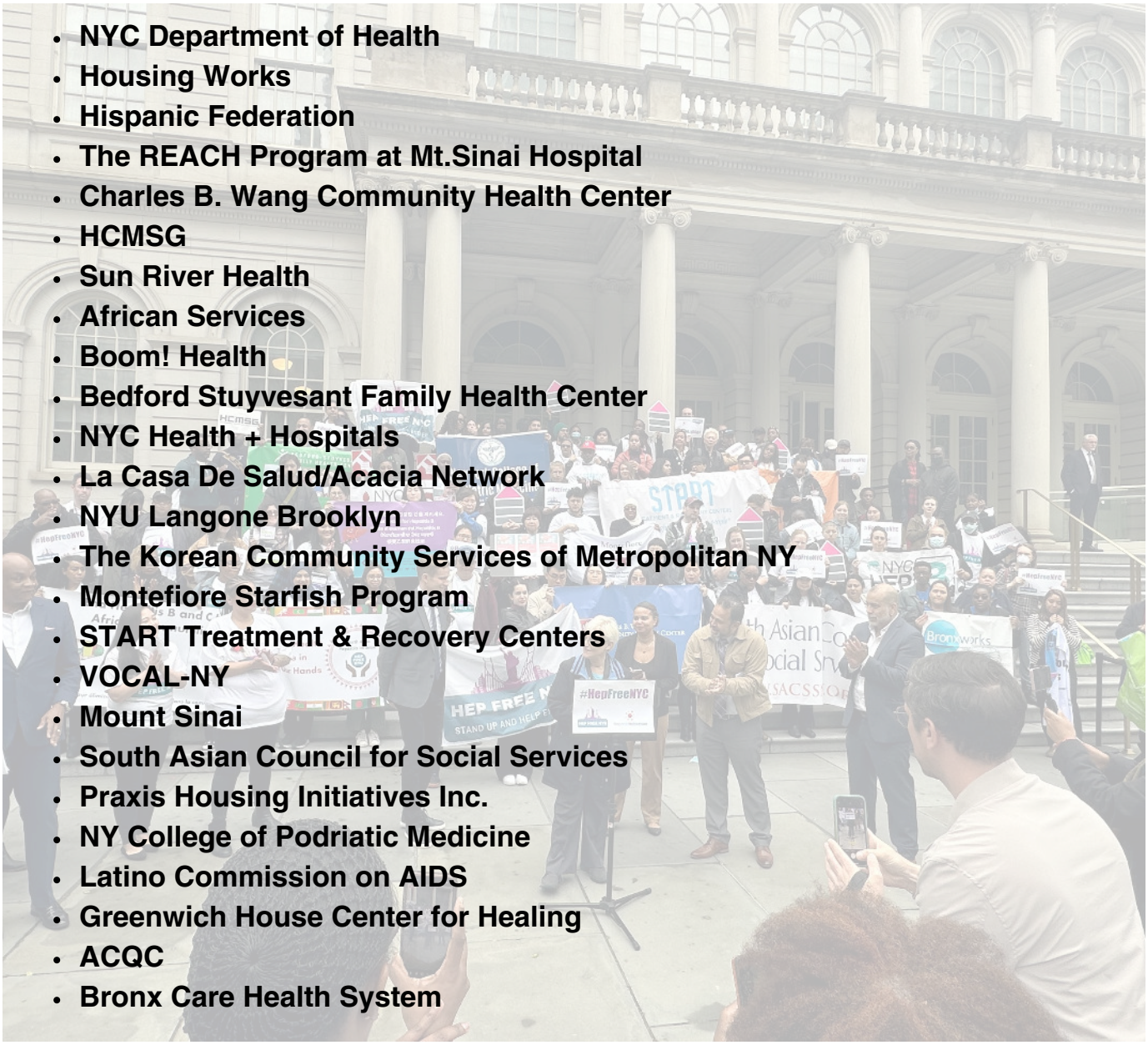


Speakers:

- **Bethsy Morales**, VP for Program Strategy & Impact, *Hispanic Federation*
- ***Dr. Sarah Braunstein**, Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of HIV, Hepatitis and STI*
- ***Abigail Hunter**, Clinical Program Manager,* VOCAL-NY
- **Dr.Julie Yoko Yoshimachi**, Hepatitis B Program Director, *Charles B. Wang*
- ***Christina Boynes**,* Community Health Worker, *BronxCare Health System*
- **Luis Mares**, Director of Community Mobilization, *Latino Commission on AIDS*
- **Mohammad Razvi**, *CEO of the Council of People's Organization*
- **Zaida Aquilar**, *a person with lived experience who has cleared hepatitis C*
- **Anthony Mcleod**, *Program Manager, START-NY*
- **Melissa Nieves**, *Director of Outreach and Integration, La Casa De Salud Acacia Network*

THANK YOU:

We appreciate your time!



- **NYC Department of Health**
- **Housing Works**
- **Hispanic Federation**
- **The REACH Program at Mt.Sinai Hospital**
- **Charles B. Wang Community Health Center**
- **HCMSG**
- **Sun River Health**
- **African Services**
- **Boom! Health**
- **Bedford Stuyvesant Family Health Center**
- **NYC Health + Hospitals**
- **La Casa De Salud/Acacia Network**
- **NYU Langone Brooklyn**
- **The Korean Community Services of Metropolitan NY**
- **Montefiore Starfish Program**
- **START Treatment & Recovery Centers**
- **VOCAL-NY**
- **Mount Sinai**
- **South Asian Council for Social Services**
- **Praxis Housing Initiatives Inc.**
- **NY College of Podriatic Medicine**
- **Latino Commission on AIDS**
- **Greenwich House Center for Healing**
- **ACQC**
- **Bronx Care Health System**

- *25 Organizations*
- *120 Staff/Volunteers/Elected Officials*

Hepatitis Community Outreach Roberto Clemente Plaza, Bronx NY

On May 22nd, local organizations participated in a Hepatitis Outreach Event in the South Bronx. During the event, free hepatitis C and B screenings were administered, as well as linkage to care. Additionally, overdoses were reversed by providing Narcan.

- **15 Organizations**
- **15 Hep B or C tests were Conducted**
- **89 Follow up**
- **3 Linkage to care**
- **2 emergency Narcans were administered to reverse overdose.**



THANK YOU!

- NYC Department of Health
- Housing Works
- Hispanic Federation
- The REACH Program at Mt.Sinai Hospital
- START Treatment & Recovery Centers
- Bronx Care Health System
- Boom! Health
- Montefiore Starfish Program
- Bedford Stuyvesant Family Health Center
- Sun River Health
- St. Anns Corner of Harm Reduction
- Montefiore Starfish Program
- Community Health Network
- Bronx Works











QUOTES

“Viral hepatitis is preventable and treatable, and so elimination remains our goal. We do this through innovative programming to reduce inequities and barriers to care for the 329,000 New Yorkers with hepatitis B and C, through patient navigation programs, peer prevention education, harm reduction, syringe services, and vaccination. The NYC Health Department uses a collaborative approach and relies on our community partnerships such as Hep Free NYC to prevent new infections through education and vaccination, and treatment. Together, we can create equitable systems of care and ensure we remain on the path to eliminating viral hepatitis in New York City.”

DOH Commissioner Ashwin Vasan, MD, PhD.

“As chair of the NYC Council Health Committee, raising awareness for public health citywide is a primary focus of mine. “I am proud to support this event during Hepatitis Awareness Month when we can focus attention on strengthening our city's resolve to eradicate hepatitis C. It's vital that we persist in our efforts to educate the public about hepatitis and advocate for testing and prevention initiatives."

Council Member Lynn Schulman

"Thousands of New Yorker are unnecessarily suffering from the serious health problems caused by viral hepatitis, hepatitis B and C in NYC, such as liver damage, cirrhosis, cancer, and even death. It's vital that the nonprofit, private, and government sectors unite through initiatives such as HepFreeNYC to ensure vulnerable communities have access to lifesaving treatment, regardless of race, ethnicity, age or insurance status. We have a responsibility to the communities we serve to save as many lives as possible by providing culturally competent medical information and helping communities of color access quality healthcare throughout the city,”

Frankie Miranda, president and CEO, Hispanic Federation.

PRESS RELEASE

HISPANIC FEDERATION, NYC HEALTH OFFICIALS, AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TEAM UP TO RID NEW YORK CITY OF VIRAL HEPATITIS

Press conference on steps of City Hall commemorates National Hepatitis Awareness Month, National Hispanic Hepatitis Awareness Day, National Hep C/HIV Co-infection Day, and National Hepatitis Testing Day

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"As chair of the NYC Council Health Committee, raising awareness for public health citywide is a primary focus of mine," said New York Council Member Lynn Schulman. "I am proud to support this event during Hepatitis Awareness Month when we can focus attention on strengthening our city's resolve to eradicate hepatitis C. It's vital that we persist in our efforts to educate the public about hepatitis and advocate for testing and prevention initiatives."

Community-based organizations and agencies who attended the press conference included the New York State Department of Health, the Latino Commission on AIDS, Bedford-Stuyvesant Family Health Center, BOOM!HEALTH, Bronx Works, Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, Council of People Organization, Hepatitis C Mentor & Support Group, Housing Works, Korean Community Services of Metropolitan NY, La Casa De Salud, Montefiore Starfish Program, Mount Sinai REACH Program, Seventh Ave Family Health Center/NYU Langone, Sun River Health, and
START Treatment & Recovery Centers.



THANK YOU FOR ADVOCATING AND RAISING AWARENESS

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