

MARIN HEPATITIS C COALITION (MHCC)

Quarterly Meeting Notes

January 24, 2022

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Participants: Deborah Gallagher - HIV Surveillance Coordinator/Epidemiologist, Linda Dobra - Sr. RN, Cicily Emerson - Division Director, Nga Le - Sr. Program Coordinator (HHS); Chris Brown - Harm Reduction Manager, Bobby Moske - Board Member (The Spahr Center); Sehrish Khan - Quality Improvement Manager (Ritter Center); Isai De La O - Director of Nursing, Jonathan Barron - Clinic Manager (Marin Community Clinics); Bill Remak - Chair (California Hepatitis C Taskforce), Jennifer Lai (Kaiser)

Discussion	Action?
I. Introductions: Name, agency/affiliation, role.	
III. HCV Provider Updates MCC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 30 patients: 10 currently on treatment, 3 ineligible so referred to UCSF, 4 needed labs, 5 waiting for diagnostics, 4 completed treatment, 3 lost to care, 1 couldn't reach for appointment• Continuing the screenings for standing orders• Providers doing screening based on risk• 1432 patients screened Ritter Center <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 patients in treatment, 10 completed• Street medicine van lost staff so the service had to be placed on hold but have since hired a new team and will be going out to the community• Will continue to test at Ritter as patients come in• It has been hard to get folks back in for labs Spahr Center <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have supported a few people to access treatment• There have been challenges with convincing people to stay in treatment so trying to learn ways to convince people to follow up• Instability due to COVID-19 and volunteers/staff testing positive, and other disruptions	

HHS:

- We have hired a new HCV PHI, Alejandra Garcia, whose start date will be February 22, 2022.
- Alliance Health Project has posted new HIV/HCV test counselor training dates and there are limited spots so let us know asap if you have staff that need the training.
- HCV webpages on Marin County website:
[Hepatitis C Testing and Prevention | Marin Health and Human Services \(marinhhs.org\)](#)
[Marin Hepatitis C Testing and Treatment Resources | Marin Health and Human Services \(marinhhs.org\)](#)
[Marin Hepatitis C Coalition \(MHCC\) | Marin Health and Human Services \(marinhhs.org\)](#)
[Working](#)
- Working with ritter on street medicine and mobile services. Will connect with Chris from Spahr to coordinate COVID-19 outreach.
- We are still working with the Jail to implement HCV testing. The plan is that the HCV PHI will provide the testing in the jail.

CA HCV Task Force

- Shared an email from CDPH: There is an opportunity for local health jurisdictions and community-based organizations to request in-kind support for hepatitis C rapid test kits, testing supplies, and, where feasible, training. This opportunity is made possible by a one-time July 2021 state budget allocation of \$1 million to be spent or encumbered by June 30, 2027. Application Deadline: Friday, February 18

IV. HCV Outreach

Social media updates

- Geo-targeted to Marin residents only: ages 18-65+
- October: Reach (takes out data from users viewing multiple times)- 1,681 people, Impressions (may include people that saw the ad multiple times) - 2,856 people
- November: Reach – 536, Impressions – 773
- December: Reach – 219, Impressions – 266
- Social media campaign – we have saturated the reach in Marin and plan on creating new content to gather more interest in the HCV information and traffic to our website/resources. We are working to gather data to see if the social media outreach is increasing HCV screening.
- Considering another set of bus shelter ads in the Spring/Summer.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We want to create a short video clip to use for social media posts to encourage HCV testing and treatment. Bill can share the social media posts. Bill can offer in-kind help in production of videos - videographer is in Mill Valley and has done educational and political campaigns. • Agencies can share their agency brochures and that can be included on the county HCV webpage. • Bill recommends considering making the HCV resource webpage into a brochure to be distributed. 	<p>Agencies to share their brochures to be included on the county HCV webpage. Also review to ensure the information is up to date.</p>
<p>V. Strategic Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed and finalized the Marin Strategic Plan. • Bill recommends including a link to the HCV resources in the plan. 	<p>Nga will send a copy of the strategic plan.</p>
<p>Other Discussion</p> <p>Do we have the number of how many are living with HCV?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deborah shared that the county has access to data from CalREDIE which is based on lab reports. Unfortunately, there isn't a good surveillance system for HCV. • Bill shared that according to Partnership Health Plan, based on our demographic and risk, they estimate that Marin County has between 8,000 to 12,000 people living with HCV, which does not include people incarcerated or people who are already treated. It is difficult to track because of some transient populations and folks off the grid. • Deborah shared that we don't see that many people in CalREDIE with HCV, ages 15-29 list only had 4 people that were viremic. We miss a lot of cases if we only rely on CalREDIE. <p>Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bobby asked if the coalition wants to present to other groups. Cesar Lagleva at the Multicultural Center has started a monthly meeting with service agencies. The group convened for their first meeting in December and includes agencies from different fields including criminal justice, healthcare, behavioral health, etc. Bobby thinks the group would benefit from learning about the HCV services that the agencies in the coalition provides. 	
<p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting is in April, date TBD • Dr. Andrew Desruisseau is interested in being part of the coalition but cannot participate on Mondays. The coalition decided to move the meeting to another day of the week, TBD 	<p>Nga will send a calendar invite once the next meeting date is set.</p>