



NASTAD SUCCESSES 2019-2020: REAL RESULTS FOR STATE, TERRITORIAL AND CITY/COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT HIV AND HEPATITIS PROGRAMS AND THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

HIV AND HEPATITIS WORKFORCE NEEDS INTENSIFY

NASTAD'S PIVOTAL ROLE. As strategies, policies, and guidance are ever evolving and community needs intensify for public health responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, NASTAD continues to inform, track, and communicate federal, state and local policy changes and adjustments to the HIV and hepatitis personnel working in HD infectious disease programs. NASTAD's members are currently playing important roles in HD COVID-19 response activities, as well as continuing to carry out their essential roles in serving vulnerable people living with or at risk for HIV and hepatitis.

COVID-19 RESPONSE. NASTAD is fully engaged in supporting the role HD HIV and hepatitis programs in state, territorial and local infectious disease and disease control units are playing in COVID-19 response activities. NASTAD publishes an updated [COVID-19 Resource Page](#) with COVID-19 updates and resources specific to HIV and hepatitis HD programs and the clients they serve. For example, NASTAD is the key resource for closely monitoring and reporting on potential disruptions to manufacturer supply chains for antiretrovirals (ARV) and direct acting antivirals (DAA). NASTAD is in daily contact with the drug makers that supply the majority of therapies for the prevention and treatment of HIV and hepatitis as well as the wholesalers and pharmacy benefit programs that supply the drugs to ADAPs and other safety net providers to signal potential shortages.

MINORITY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM. MLP is a leadership development program for persons of color working at various levels in state or CDC funded HD positions in HIV or viral hepatitis programs. Since relaunching in 2017, 79 individuals have participated in the program. In 2019, 24 participants completed the program, including nine participants representing State Offices of Minority Health. Eight participants reported job promotions and career changes since the 2019 training was completed. The 2020 cohort is comprised of 18 passionate, public health professionals of color, including participants from jurisdictions not previously engaged in the program.

NEW NASTAD MEMBERS. For 10 years, NASTAD has held NASTAD University at its Annual Meeting for members who are new to NASTAD within the last year. It's been a much-used program in recent years; in the previous two and a half years there has been a two-thirds (66%) turnover in NASTAD's primary members. NASTAD's continues to provide peer-based mentorship for new members and their lead staff throughout the year.

NATIONAL HIV AND HEPATITIS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MEETING. NASTAD convened the 2019 National HIV and Hepatitis Technical Assistance Meeting where HD staff from HIV prevention, care and viral hepatitis programs came together to share successful strategies, and meet with colleagues from the federal government, industry and partner organizations. Sessions focused on the role of public health in addressing the continuum of HIV and hepatitis services; from prevention, data and surveillance, testing and linkage to care, achieving HIV viral suppression and curing HCV, federal policy issues, ADAP, Medicaid and private insurance coverage, and achieving our collective goal of ending these epidemics. We all look forward to and hope for the day when we reconvene this critically important in-person meeting for our members and partners.