POLICY

NASTAD’S PIVOTAL ROLE. NASTAD is in the ideal position to inform HDs about national level policies, programs, and funding related to ending the epidemics. We are also the pivotal organization in Washington, DC to educate and inform policymakers and national partners about what’s happening on the ground as jurisdictions make progress on HIV and hepatitis elimination activities. NASTAD participates in 35 coalitions and leads ten coalitions to ensure that health department priorities are represented in policy discussions.

CONGRESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATION ENGAGEMENT. NASTAD represented health departments and advocated on behalf of them in over 220 visits to Capitol Hill and about 40 meetings with the Administration.

ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC. NASTAD has worked to guide the development of the Administration’s initiative to end the HIV epidemic by 2030. The FY2020 budget included:

- $141 million increase for the CDC’s National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP)
- Increase of $140 million, which is dedicated to the Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative
- $5 million increase for infectious diseases related to the opioid epidemic
- $70 million increase for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

NASTAD was awarded five-year cooperative agreements from both CDC and HRSA to support state and local HDs and communities in developing and coordinating EHE plans. NASTAD will assist jurisdictions in identifying existing and new stakeholders, as well as disseminate best practices, innovative approaches, and interventions that will advance EHE progress in all jurisdictions.

TREATMENT AND MEDICATIONS FINANCING AND ACCESS. NASTAD released a set of drug pricing and access principles to advance NASTAD’s health legislative and policy priorities and, more broadly, to help address the health disparities that have fueled disproportionate access to healthcare in the U.S. NASTAD released an updated 2020 National AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Formulary Database under a new platform integrated directly within NASTAD’s website. The Database provides an online, searchable, publicly available resource detailing state-by-state ADAP coverage of medications both individually and by drug class. NASTAD’s National Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Part B and AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Monitoring Project, documents key trends, challenges, and successes faced by public health programs ensuring access to life-saving treatment and services for people living with HIV nationally.

PREP ACCESS. NASTAD advocated along with partners for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force’s Grade A Recommendation for PrEP. To help see the recommendation implemented, NASTAD developed an implementation guidance letter on behalf of the HIV Health Care Access Working Group for state insurance regulators.

NASTAD is ideally positioned at the nexus of state, territorial and local HIV prevention, surveillance, care, treatment and drug user health programs to work with jurisdictions, with federal agencies, and national partners to assess TA, policy and funding needs across all jurisdictions. NASTAD develops the tools, strategies and approaches to plan, implement, and sustain efforts to support jurisdictions in reducing HIV and hepatitis infections and health disparities.