



Bridging Science, Policy and Public Health

# ***Strategies for Integrating HIV/Hepatitis Prevention***

Prevention Networking Group & Viral Hepatitis Work Group Webinar  
June 20, 2007

# Overview

- Comprehensive services for clients
- Increased HIV and hepatitis integration since 1999
- Health Departments leading the way
- Hepatitis a part of NASTAD Strategic Map
- Continued opportunities to discuss integration strategies
- Integration at CDC
  - National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP)

# Webinar Objectives

- Identify strategies that Health Departments can use to integrate hepatitis/HIV prevention activities and services by sharing a variety of models of integration
- Provide an opportunity for jurisdictions to discuss integration of hepatitis/HIV prevention activities and services
- Identify specific strategies that Health Department HIV and hepatitis programs can employ to enhance existing integration efforts

# Webinar Agenda

- Welcome & Overview
  - Judy Norton, Chief, Arizona HIV/STD/Hepatitis C Services
- Integration in Vermont
  - Rob Lunn, Director, HIV/AIDS/STD Program
  - Daniel Daltry, STD and Hepatitis C Program Chief
  - Vanessa Melamede Berman, Hepatitis C Coordinator
- Integration in Florida
  - Phil Reichert, Hepatitis C Coordinator
- Facilitated Discussion
- Wrap Up and Next Steps



# Webinar/Call Etiquette

- Mute your phone line
  - Press \*6 to mute
  - Press #6 to unmute
- Questions
  - There will be dedicated time for questions
  - If something needs clarification, feel free to ask
  - Please identify yourself when asking question/comment
- Written Questions
  - Participants using Microsoft Live Meeting may have the ability to submit written questions during the webinar
  - Please feel free to use this feature if you would like

*The Vermont Department of Health*

# Integrated HIV/AIDS/STD & Hepatitis C Program

*Guidance • Support • Prevention • Protection*

**Vanessa Melamede Berman, MPH**

*Hepatitis C Coordinator*

**Daniel Daltry, MSW**

*STD and Hepatitis C Program Chief*

**Rob Lunn, MPA**

*Director, HIV/AIDS/STD & Hepatitis C Program*

# Presentation Overview

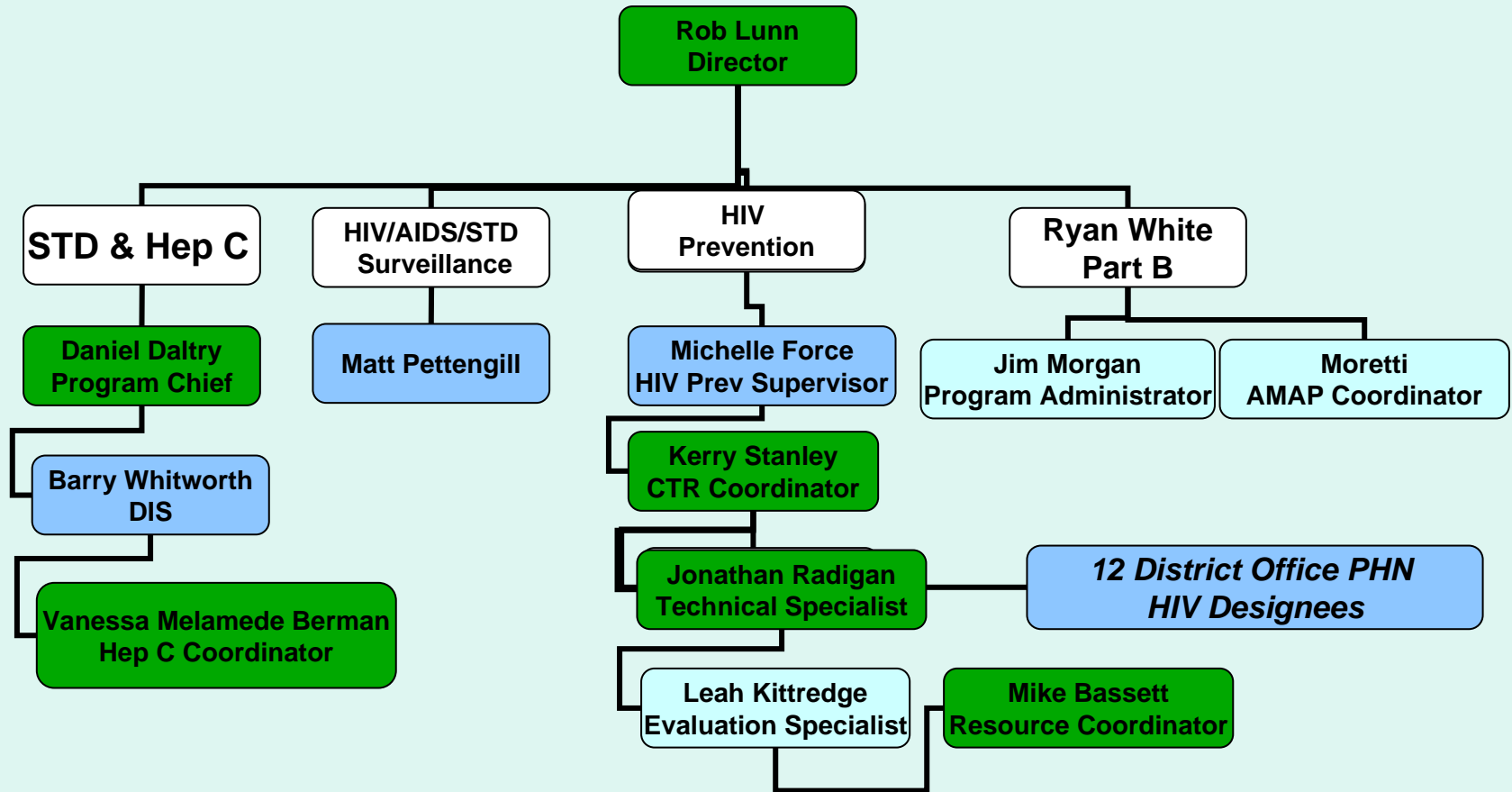
- Overview of HIV/AIDS/STD/Hepatitis C Program
- Integrated Activities
- Resources used for integration
- Challenges to integration
- Recommendations

# Overview of Vermont's HIV/AIDS/STD/Hepatitis C Program

Integration of five programs...

- HIV Prevention
- HIV Services
- HIV Surveillance
- STDs
- Hepatitis C

# HIV/AIDS/STD/Hep C Program Staff



**Regularly participate in integrated activities**

**Occasionally participate in integrated activities**

**Infrequently participate in integrated activities**

# Integrated Activities

- Training curriculum
- Prevention and Care services
- Surveillance data and analysis
- Cross-training of staff
- Integrated community programs and planning
- Shared program support

# Training

- Basic Trainings for grantees receiving HIV prevention and services funding combines information on HIV, STDs, and hepatitis C
- Hepatitis C Testing training is co-facilitated by two HIV Prevention staff along with the Hepatitis C Coordinator
- Integrated trainings provided to drug and alcohol treatment centers (DOH ADAP program)
- State University research project support

# Prevention Services

- Syringe exchange program staff are trained in both HIV and HCV testing
- STD DIS staff have capability to provide HIV and HCV testing during STD investigations
- HIV prevention grantees offer combined HIV, STD, and hepatitis C trainings to inmates in state prisons

# Surveillance

- Hepatitis C Coordinator works with Division's Infectious Disease Epidemiology staff to conduct hepatitis C surveillance activities
- Data helps with PCRS activities
- HIV Surveillance Coordinator has created quarterly and annual reports for the HIV, STD and Hepatitis C programs

# Cross-trained Staff

- HIV/AIDS Program staff, STD staff and Hepatitis C Coordinator are cross-trained in HIV/STD and viral hepatitis
- HIV Prevention CTR Coordinator trained to conduct STD investigations (and conduct HIV and HCV testing, when applicable)
- PCRS specialists from HIV and STD programs have ability to provide support in certain cases of hepatitis C

# Integrated Community Programs

- Technical Assistance provided to HIV prevention funded syringe exchange programs on hepatitis C
- 12 District public health nurses designated for HIV prevention activities also work on hepatitis C awareness
- Hepatitis C Coordinator has presented to and provides consultation to the HIV/AIDS Program Community Advisory Group (planning)
- Hepatitis C Coordinator works with Division's Immunization staff and HIV/AIDS prevention grantees to vaccinate high-risk adults for hepatitis A and B

# Shared Program Support

- Shared distribution of prevention supplies and materials on HIV, STDs, and hepatitis C
- HIV/AIDS/STD/Hepatitis C program share a staff intern from the state university for data analysis and other program assistance
  - Database for Syringe Exchange Programs (Under Construction)
  - HCV data integrated into HIV/AIDS Epidemiological Profile
- Community Hotline

# Resources

Limited financial resource – human resources are key!

- Staff time is the primary resource we utilize and share
- Small program staff can be an asset
- Buy in and ongoing support from staff and supervisors is important

Some financial support is possible on a limited basis

# Challenges to Integration

- Hepatitis C projects remain small in scale due to very limited federal funding
- Small program staff and limited staff time
- Funding is specific to programs and can not always be shared (there are exceptions to this)
- Staff changes – training issues

# Recommendations and Lessons-Learned

- Consolidation of staff and programs
  - Sharing of physical space or closer proximity
- Cross-train staff wherever possible
  - Develop integrated training programs
- Buy-in & ongoing support from director and other supervisors
- Buy-in from staff; willingness to share responsibilities
- Ensure integration/collaboration occurs whenever it can
- Partner with entities that share common goals (common populations)
- *Communication! Communication! Communication!*
  - Having regularly scheduled meetings to discuss projects and possible collaborations is key
  - Copy staff on emails/memos to keep each other informed

# For more information, please contact:

Rob Lunn  
[rlunn@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:rlunn@vdh.state.vt.us)

Daniel Daltry  
[ddaltry@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:ddaltry@vdh.state.vt.us)

Vanessa Melamede Berman  
[vmelame@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:vmelame@vdh.state.vt.us)

Vermont Department of Health  
<http://healthvermont.gov/index.aspx>

# **OVERVIEW**

# **The Florida Hepatitis Prevention Program**

**NASTAD Webinar on Integration  
June 20, 2007**

**Philip E. Reichert, MPH**  
**Program Administrator**  
**Florida Hepatitis Prevention Program**



# The Staff



**SEATED: Cheryl Urbas, Nosipho Beaufort & April Crowley**  
**STANDING: Phil Reichert, Jodi Baldy & Carl McKissick**

# Program Staff

Tallahassee

**April Crowley** – Health Education Coordinator  
(850) 245-4444 ext. 2580

**Cheryl Urbas** – Field Services Coordinator  
(850) 245-4444 ext. 2589

**Nosipho Beaufort** – Office Manager  
(850) 245-4444 ext. 2430

**Jodi Baldy** – Part Time Special Projects Coordinator  
(850) 245-4444 ext. 2531

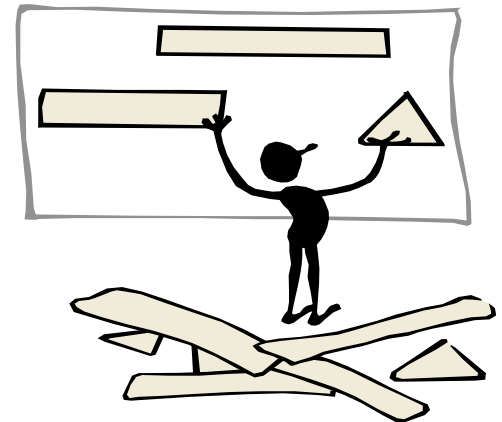
**Carl McKissick** – Data & Research Coordinator  
(850) 245-4444 ext. 2513

**Phil Reichert** – Program Administrator  
(850) 245-4426

One vacant position: Surveillance & Lab Coordinator

**E-MAILS are:** [first\\_last@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:first_last@doh.state.fl.us)

- **Lots of change**
- **Opportunities to try new things**



# **Hepatitis 09 Program**

**County Health Departments (CHD)**

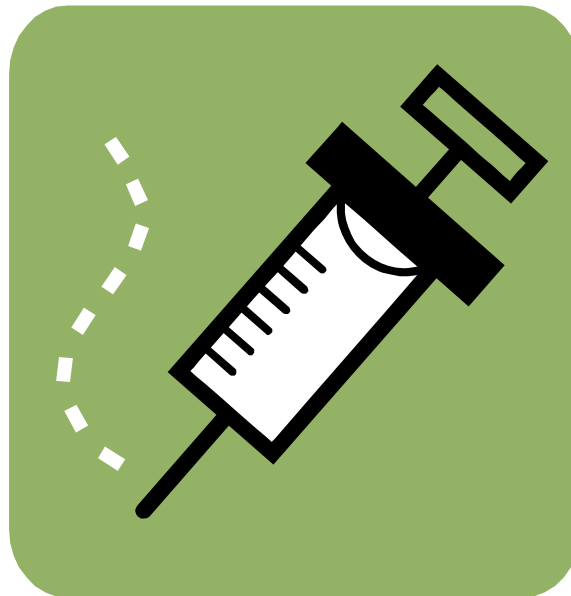
**-Hepatitis A, B & C Testing**

**-Vaccine Availability**

**-Risk Assessment**

# Testing

- **Hepatitis A, B & C antibody panels through the State Labs**
- **Home Access Hepatitis C Kits**



# Treatment

- **No Funding Available for Hepatitis Treatment in CHDs**
- **Referrals (Compassionate Care Programs, ADAP)**
- **Support Groups**



# **Vaccine Program**

- **Hepatitis A and B Vaccine available through Hepatitis Prevention Program**
- **Vaccine Accountability by Field Services Coordinator**

# Laboratory

- **Five State Labs:**

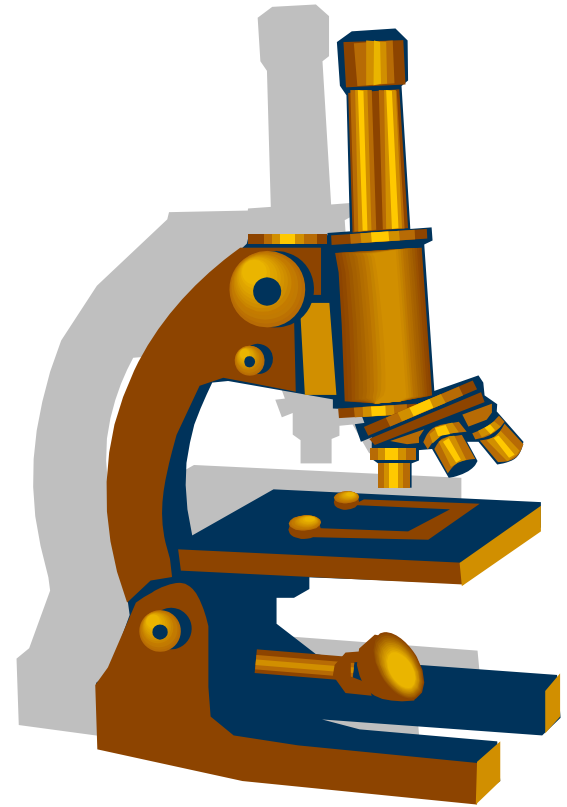
**Miami-Dade**

**Jacksonville**

**Tampa**

**Pensacola**

**Palm Beach**



# Case Reporting and Investigation

- Acute A & B and Acute and Chronic C
- Reported through Merlin at CHDs
- Bureau of Epidemiology follows up on outbreaks



# **Education & Information**

- **Brochures, Posters and Other Written Materials**
- **Videos (In the past: PSAs)**
- **Hepatitis 101 via Conference Call and e-mailed Slides**

# Surveillance

- **Reported Cases are compiled monthly**
- **The Division of Disease Control  
MONTHLY SURVEILLANCE REPORT**
- **Includes: Acute A, B & C  
and Chronic C  
(And HIV/AIDS, STD, TB)**



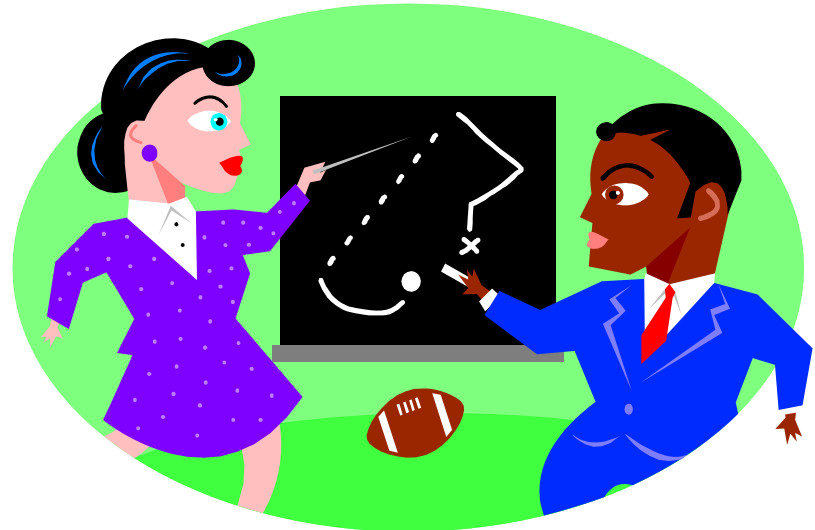
# 15 Funded Counties

- **6 counties funded in 1999 for hepatitis prevention: Broward, Collier, Miami-Dade, Pinellas, Polk & Monroe**
- **3 Counties funded in 2002: Escambia, Seminole & Lee**
- **4 counties funded @ \$50,000 each in 2005: Bay, Palm Beach (Additional \$40K in 2006), Okeechobee & Alachua**
- **2 counties funded @ \$75,000 each in 2007: Duval and Orange**

# Fla Comprehensive Planning Network

\* \* \* \* \*

- **HIV Patient Care Planning Group**
- **HIV Prevention Planning Group**
- **Viral Hepatitis Council**



# Fla Viral Hepatitis Council

- **Established 2004**
- **Partnership between state & community**
- **Meets twice a year**
- **Provides advice & guidance to the state Hepatitis Prevention Program**
- **Charged with writing a comprehensive hepatitis prevention plan**



# **Viral Hepatitis Council**

## **(Continued)**

### **20 MEMBERS**

- **Minimum of 4 community members**
- **2 clinical or medical**
- **4 public health**
- **2 other government agencies (DCF, DOC, DOEA...)**
- **3 CBO**
- **2 Academic/Research**

# **Risk Assessments**

- **CHDs routinely risk assess clients**
- **Risk assessments analyzed to determine where prevention interventions need to be**

**(Populations at  
Risk, best  
interventions...)**

# Funding

- **CDC: \$68,000**

**(ELC Grant: Epidemiology and Lab Capacity)**

- **General Revenue:\$3.1 Million**

- **Asking for \$4 million from 2008  
Legislature**

# **General Revenue**

## **State Funding**

- **6 County Programs (buy their own vaccine):  
\$1,528,000**
- **5 County Programs (Medium funding):  
\$382,000**
- **4 County Programs (Minimum Funding):  
\$240,000**
- **Laboratory, Vaccine, 5 FTEs, Educational  
Materials, Other Program Expenses:  
\$950,000**

# Integration in Florida

- State Hepatitis Prevention Program under Bureau of HIV/AIDS**
- Hepatitis testing and vaccine offered in STD and HIV clinics in health departments (317 vaccine)**
- Promotion of hepatitis program at specific venues (STD and HIV Manager meetings)**
- Hepatitis education part of HIV counseling & testing training & updates**
- Viral Hepatitis Council part of comprehensive planning network**



# **Partnerships & Collaborations**

**(External, Outside DOH)**

\* \* \* \* \*

- **American Liver Foundation (National and Gulf Coast Chapter)**
- **CDC**
- **NASTAD**
- **Hepatitis Foundation International  
in Maryland**

**Dept of Corrections, Dept of Children & Families, County Jails, Substance Abuse Centers...**

# Partnerships & Collaborations (Internal, Within DOH)

- **County Health Depts**
- **TB & Refugee Health Program**
- **STD**
- **HIV/AIDS (Inc: Early Intervention, Prevention, Patient Care, Surveillance)**
- **Immunization**
- **Epidemiology**
- **State Laboratory**
- **Central Pharmacy**



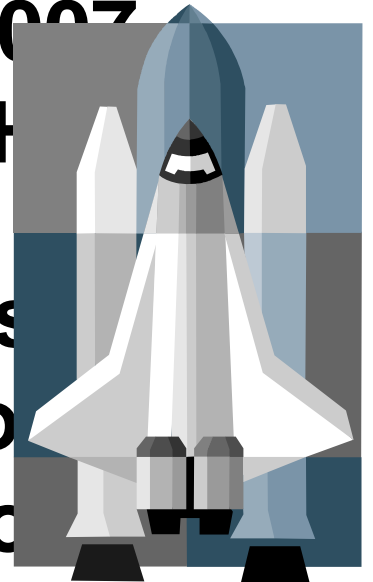
# Where To in 2007-08?

- **Meetings with all partners to enhance prevention, testing, vaccine, patient care, surveillance services...**
- **2 Viral Hepatitis Council Meetings a year**
- **Review and update Hepatitis Plan**
- **Hepatitis 101 trainings**
- **Training & workshops for at-risk populations**
- **Enhance info for CHDs**



# More...in 2007-08

- **Hepatitis Day at the Capitol (April 2008, during Legislative Session)**
- **Hepatitis Awareness Month – May (Press Release)**
- **1<sup>st</sup> Statewide Hepatitis Educational Conf – Orlando in June 28-29, 2007**
- **Enhance vaccine & testing in CH (317)**
- **Hepatitis B Elimination in Adults**
- **Meeting with partners about pro treatment for hepatitis C infection (Hep**



# And *Still* More in 2007 & Beyond

- **Integration of hepatitis services into other programs – Training**
- **Hepatitis Coordinator meetings and conference calls**
- **Feedback Meetings & Consultation**



- **With change comes  
Opportunity**



# **Thank You for Listening**

**And thanks for all of your hard  
work helping others**

## **Contact Information**

**Philip E. Reichert**

**(850) 245-4426**

**[phil\\_reichert@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:phil_reichert@doh.state.fl.us)**





- **Questions?**
- **Discussion?**



# Group Discussion

- How has your jurisdiction integrated HIV and hepatitis prevention?
  - Challenges
  - Strategies used to overcome challenges
  - Recommendations to other jurisdictions

# Group Discussion

- How have you dealt with structural barriers to integrating HIV and hepatitis prevention?
  - Categorical funding
  - HIV and hepatitis located in different programs

# Group Discussion

- How have you dealt with training and workforce development regarding integrating HIV and hepatitis prevention?

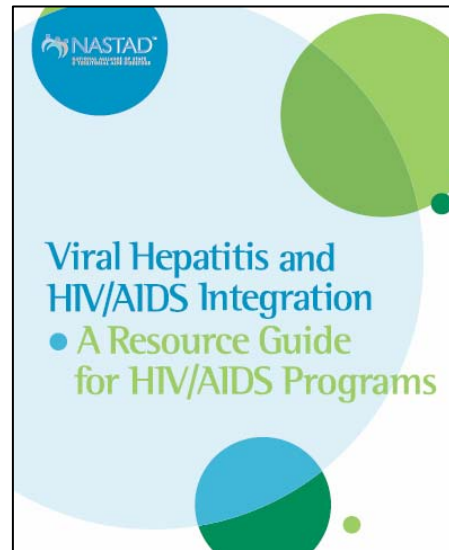
# Group Discussion

- How have you collaborated with internal and external partners to increase the integration of HIV and hepatitis prevention?

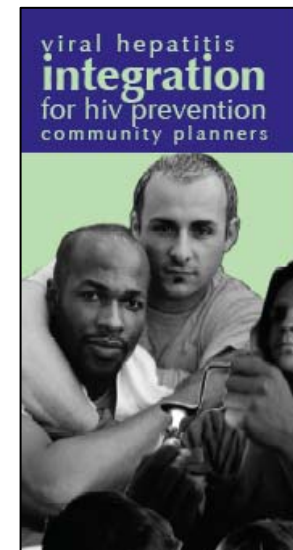
# Integration Resources



[www.publichealthreports.org](http://www.publichealthreports.org)



[www.NASTAD.org](http://www.NASTAD.org)



[www.cdc.gov/hepatitis](http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis)

# Next Steps

- How can your jurisdiction increase integration of HIV and hepatitis prevention?
- What can you do in your position to increase integration within your jurisdiction?
- What support do you need from NASTAD and CDC to increase integration in your jurisdiction?

# For More Information

Judy Norton (AZ)     [NORTONJ@azdhs.gov](mailto:NORTONJ@azdhs.gov)  
Rob Lunn (VT)     [RLunn@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:RLunn@vdh.state.vt.us)  
Daniel Daltry (VT)     [ddaltry@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:ddaltry@vdh.state.vt.us)  
Vanessa Melamede Berman (VT)     [vmelame@vdh.state.vt.us](mailto:vmelame@vdh.state.vt.us)  
Phil Reichert (FL)     [Phil\\_Reichert@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Phil_Reichert@doh.state.fl.us)

Dave Kern (NASTAD)     [dkern@NASTAD.org](mailto:dkern@NASTAD.org)  
Chris Taylor (NASTAD)     [ctaylor@NASTAD.org](mailto:ctaylor@NASTAD.org)

# Future Integration Calls/Webinars

Watch for more information on future integration calls/webinars!



# Webinar Evaluation

Please take a moment to fill out the online evaluation of this call/webinar. An email with a link to the survey will be sent to you today.

Thank You!

# Thank You!

- Judy Norton (AZ)
- Rob Lunn (VT)
- Daniel Daltry (VT)
- Vanessa Melamede Berman (VT)
- Phil Reichert (FL)
- Call/Webinar Participants
- PNG & VHWG
- CDC Partners
- NASTAD Staff