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Hep B United Awards $60,000 to Community-Based Organizations for Hepatitis B Education and Screening

National Coalition Distributes Mini Grants to Fund Hepatitis B Education, Screening and Linkage to Care Activities Among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

DOYLESTOWN, PA (May 2014) – The Hepatitis B Foundation, a national nonprofit research and disease advocacy organization dedicated to finding a cure for hepatitis B, has awarded $60,000 in mini grants to Hep B United coalition members. Hep B United is a national coalition established by the Foundation in partnership with the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organization to support local community-based coalitions across the country working to eliminate hepatitis B. Grant recipients will be working to address Hep B United's strategic priorities of improving testing and linkage-to-care to prevent hepatitis B-related liver disease and liver cancer.

"We are very excited to support dedicated partners across the country who are working tirelessly to raise awareness about the importance of hepatitis B screening and encourage testing for those with the greatest risk," said Kate Moraras, MPH, senior program director at the Hepatitis B Foundation and director of Hep B United. "The emphasis of this mini-grant program is focused on Asian American and Pacific Islander communities who make up 5 percent of the total population in the United States, but account for more than 50 percent of Americans living with chronic hepatitis B.

The 2014 Hep B United mini-grant recipients include:

- Asian Pacific Health Foundation (San Diego, CA)
- Asian Services in Action, Inc. (Akron, OH)
- Cambodian Association of Greater Philadelphia (Philadelphia, PA)
- Charles B. Wang Community Health Center (New York, NY)
- Dallas-Forth Worth Hepatitis B Free Project (Dallas-Fort Worth, TX)
- Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, DC (Washington, DC)
- International Community Health Services (Seattle, WA)

The grants will support activities at the local level including strengthening local coalition infrastructure, identifying and addressing specific local barriers to hepatitis B screening and linkage to care, and identifying and developing systems to increase hepatitis B screening in high-risk populations.

About Hep B United

Hep B United is a national coalition to address the public health challenge of hepatitis B by increasing awareness, screening, vaccination and linkage to care for all Americans, but in particular, for high-risk Asian American and Pacific Islander populations who are disproportionately impacted. For more information about Hep B United and its local coalition members, please visit http://hepbunited.org.

About the Hepatitis B Foundation
The Hepatitis B Foundation is the only national nonprofit organization solely dedicated to finding a cure for hepatitis B and improving the quality of life for those affected worldwide through research, education and patient advocacy. To learn more, visit www.hepb.org, read our blog at http://wp.hepb.org, follow us on Twitter @HepBFoundation, find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hepbfoundation or call 215-489-4900.

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