

## SOI: HCV Learning Collaborative for Drug Treatment Programs

### OVERVIEW

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) AIDS Institute, in partnership with Health Research Inc., released a Solicitation of Interest (SOI) for Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS)-certified opioid treatment programs and outpatient programs located outside of New York City to participate in a two-year hepatitis C virus (HCV) learning collaborative. The HCV Learning Collaborative aims to build capacity to provide onsite HCV testing (antibody screening and HCV RNA testing) and linkage to care activities for clients living with HCV.

DOH will provide \$1 million in total funding across 10 awards during the two-year program period.

The SOI is available [here](#). Applications are due on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Questions may be submitted to [AIGPU@health.ny.gov](mailto:AIGPU@health.ny.gov).

### FUNDING

DOH will provide \$50,000 in annual funding to one awardee in each of the 10 regions outlined in the SOI. Organizations may apply for more than one region; however, a separate application must be submitted for each region.

Contracts will last for two years starting on April 1, 2022.

### ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants are not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organizations that:

- Are certified by OASAS to provide outpatient and/or opioid treatment services;
- Operate an outpatient or opioid treatment program outside of New York City; and
- Meet the minimum number of unique clients served in 2019 based on program type:
  - Outpatient treatment programs must have served at least 400 unique clients in 2019.
  - Opioid treatment programs must have served at least 300 unique clients in 2019.

### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Funded organizations will be expected to:

- Establish a process to identify clients in need of HCV testing and/or linkage to care;
- Develop policies and procedures for HCV testing;
- Implement universal HCV testing onsite;
- Provide appropriate counseling messages based on HCV testing results;
- Establish a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with at least one HCV provider for the purposes of linking clients to HCV care and treatment;
- Develop policies and procedures to effectively link clients to HCV care and treatment;
- Conduct linkage to care activities for clients diagnosed with HCV and track outcomes;
- Evaluate and report the outcomes of HCV testing and linkage to care activities;
- Participate in a virtual launch meeting of the collaborative;

- Assess organizational infrastructure to support HCV services (e.g., policies, practices, services, etc.);
- Participate in monthly learning collaborative calls;
- Participate in coaching sessions;
- Participate in quarterly webinars with subject matter experts;
- Collect and submit data on a set of key measures to monitor and evaluate the success of the collaborative;
- Participate in a virtual closing meeting to share overall and program specific successes, challenges, and final data outcomes; and
- Submit final project report.