



## ***Hepatitis B Foundation Storytelling Project:***

### **Information for Partner Organizations Helping to Recruit Storytellers**

#### **What is This Project?**

The [Hepatitis B Foundation](#) recognizes that engaging community members in speaking out about obstacles to hepatitis B screening, prevention, and care is essential to reducing stigma, encouraging screening, and improving services for those living with hepatitis B. We are collaborating with [StoryCenter](#) on the *Hepatitis B Foundation Storytelling Project*, to make the real voices of every-day people living with / affected by hepatitis B a key ingredient of our prevention and advocacy efforts. We will first engage people in sharing their own stories as short videos, in a digital storytelling workshop. Then, we will train and support them to act as spokespeople in their local communities and nationally to help increase hepatitis B awareness and promote the importance of hepatitis B screening and care.

#### **What is a Digital Storytelling Workshop?**

StoryCenter's "Digital Storytelling Workshop" brings a small group of people together (approximately eight to ten participants) to share true *personal* stories from their lives, as short digital videos. The workshop is **participatory**: those who attend share a story verbally, in a group "Story Circle"; write a script for the story; record the story into a microphone; choose and take photos and video clips for the story; and collaborate with workshop facilitators to combine these materials into a short video. The workshop includes time for participants to talk about how their stories can be shared, to educate viewers and inspire action. To give you an example of the kinds of videos that are produced in digital storytelling workshops, [watch this powerful story](#) from StoryCenter's work on HIV stigma, with the Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center.

#### **How Can My Organization Support the Project, and How Will We Benefit?**

We need staff from our key partner organizations around the United States to help us identify, recruit, and confirm participants for the *Hepatitis B Foundation Storytelling Project*. These individuals must be able to attend a three-day workshop in Berkeley, California, scheduled for Fri. Jan. 20 - Sun. Jan. 20-23, 2017, from 9 am – 5 pm each day. Participants **MUST** be able to attend all three days. The Hepatitis B Foundation will cover all participant travel and lodging costs and will provide storytellers with a stipend, to compensate them for missed work time.

Organizations that decide to participate in this effort will benefit immensely, as the storytellers they recruit will be asked to lead local story screening and sharing activities. By helping us find participants, you're ensuring that people in your area will become engaged as leaders in raising hepatitis B awareness and promoting hepatitis B screening, prevention, and care as a priority.

#### **What Kinds of Storytellers Are Needed?**

The Hepatitis B Foundation is committed to representing a diversity of people and perspectives with this project. We're looking for women and men 18 or older who are willing to attend the workshop, share a unique, personal story as a short video, and become champions in their local communities to publicly share the collection of stories.

Participants must be able to understand, speak, and write in English and should have a strong interest and commitment to serving as a leader / advocate for hepatitis B awareness and prevention.

While specific topics will be determined at the workshop, we're seeking stories that can include the following:

- living with HBV - successes, challenges, stigma/discrimination, hopes, fears
- being a family member of someone living with HBV
- adopting a child with HBV (choosing a child with HBV)
- mother-to-child HBV transmission
- HBV-related liver cancer and/or a liver transplant
- vaccine success in preventing HBV (perinatal, child/teen, or adult)
- how HBV has impacted families across generations
- HBV-related treatment success and/or experiences with clinical trials

*Please note, these are just examples. Specific story topics will be developed during the workshop!*

### **What Will the Storytellers Gain From Participating in the Project?**

Those who participate in the *Hepatitis B Foundation Storytelling Project* will have the chance to share a meaningful story from their own lives, with a group of like-minded listeners; build relationships with their fellow workshop participants; participate in a follow-up one hour webinar to identify key take-away points and strategies for publicly sharing the stories in local communities and online; receive online training on how to present the digital stories in public settings as tools for promoting screening and prevention, improving hepatitis B care, and reducing stigma; and develop public speaking skills to become hepatitis B champions.

### **What Steps Can I / My Organization Take To Recruit Participants?**

1. View the [Hepatitis B Foundation Storytelling Project informational webinar](#) for organizational partners.
2. Identify potential storytellers; use the project materials to communicate with them via phone or email about the project and what will be expected of them, if they decide to participate in the project.
3. Ask potential storytellers to complete the *Hepatitis B Foundation Storytelling Project Participant Information Packet* (in print form or online – includes project description and information sheet).
4. Please email Kate Moraras at [kate.moraras@hepb.org](mailto:kate.moraras@hepb.org), if you have any questions or concerns.

*Thank you for your interest!*

**The Hepatitis B Foundation appreciates the support of our national partners!**



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