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BIGG ELIMINATION TRIBUTE PROJECT | MODULE 7

# Building Provider Capacity for HCV Prevention Program Integration

## Wellness & Support



# Introductions

- Caring Ambassadors Program
- Jill Wolf, LCSW - Hepatitis C Program Director
- Co-created with Chicago Recovery Alliance (CRA) and adapted from a training conducted in October 2019

We are grateful to Abbvie and Gilead for their support of this training and education program. We are also thankful to the Chicago Department of Public Health by way of the Centers for Disease Control for supporting us with seed money that contributed to the initial curriculum development.



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# In honor of Dan Bigg

- Executive Director of Chicago Recovery Alliance for 25 years
- Created system for Syringe Service Program access and Naloxone Distribution
- Awarded The Norman E. Zinberg Award for Achievement in the Field of Medicine
- Fierce HCV Elimination Advocate
- Awarded 2017 Chicagoan of the Year
- Known as the 'Godfather of Naloxone'



Photo Credit: Nigel Brunson



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# Overall Project Goal

To build the capacity, confidence, and knowledge to integrate responsive hepatitis C (HCV) screening, testing, linkage-to-care/cure, and support programs into existing infrastructures.





# Modules

Module 1 - Prevention & Education



Module 2 - Screening & Testing



Module 3 - Vaccination



Module 4 - Staging



Module 5 - Treatment



Module 6 - Cure



Module 7 - Wellness & Support



# Wellness & Support

The purpose of this module is to identify key program support structures that promote wellness, prevent re-infection, and support patients with advanced liver disease.



## Wellness & Support Objectives

### **Participants will be able to:**

- Leverage existing community supports to promote ongoing patient wellness and program sustainability
- Identify opportunities to engage activated patients and advocate for opportunities for HCV micro-elimination



# Wellness & Support - Nothing About Us Without Us

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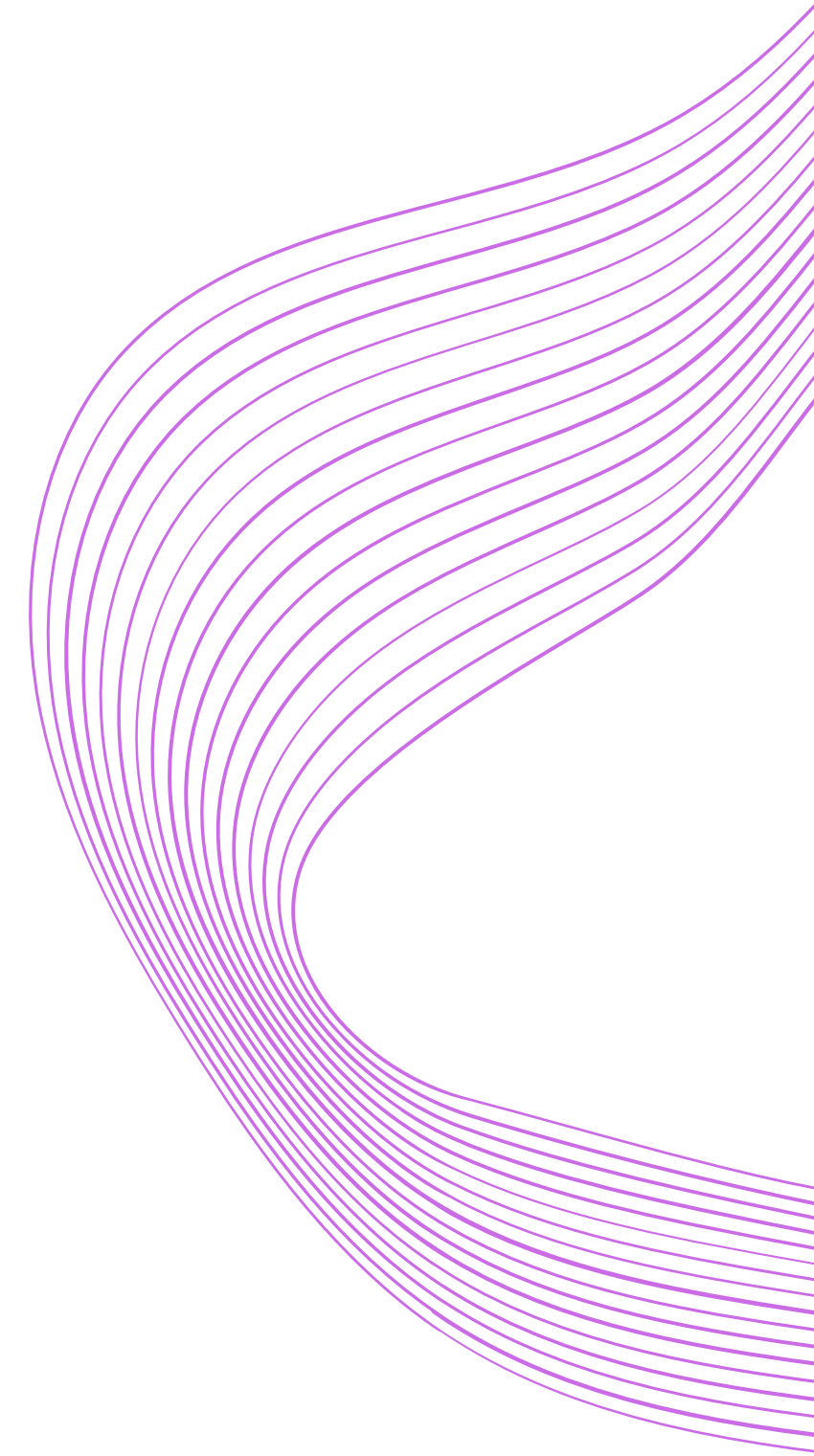
## HCV Cure & Wellness with non-cirrhotic patients

- If you start treatment at F0 - F2 and obtain a cure...BYE!
  - you are good to go
- Learn how to NEVER get re-infected
- Education on re-testing
  - antibody testing will always be positive



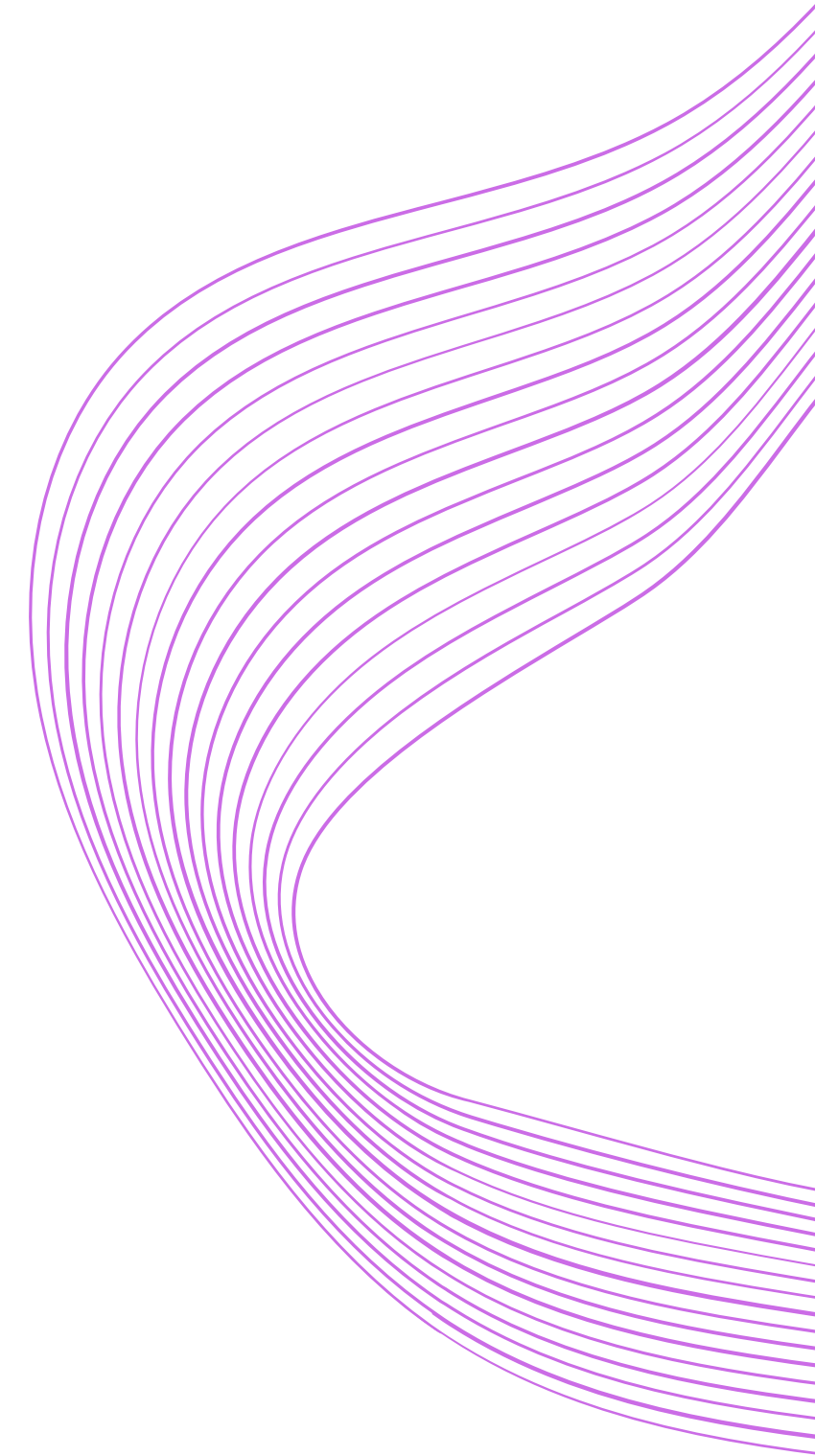
### HCV Cure & Wellness with patients with cirrhosis

- Ongoing management - scan every 6 months for a lifetime



## HCV Cure & Wellness for people who use drugs

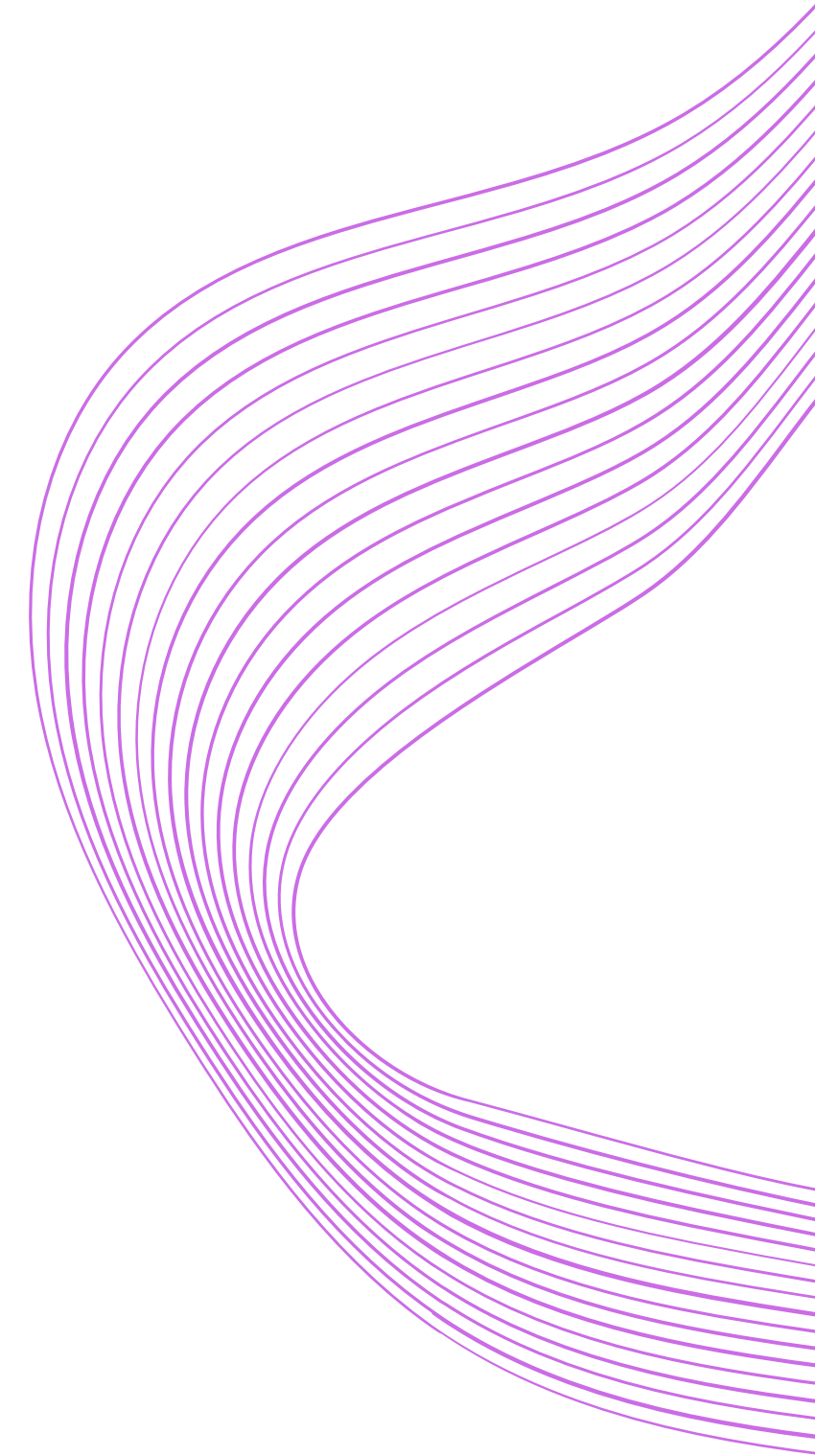
- Prevention of reinfection & exposure
  - HCV prevention = HIV prevention
  - HIV prevention ≠ HCV prevention
- Harm reduction strategies
- Testing frequency





### Wellness and support for the cured

- Household transmission
- Sexual transmission
- Vaccination
- Risk reduction/harm reduction
  - Liver health
  - Drug use



## Advocacy & Empowerment

- Engage patients = stigma elimination
- stories
- peer educator
- sharing
- legislators

### Rules on hepatitis C drugs loosened

Illinois to expand access to stage 3 Medicaid recipients



Larry Holmes, a Medicaid beneficiary who has early stage hepatitis C, worries how sick he'll have to get before the state will cover the drugs for him. (Zbigniew Bzdak/Chicago Tribune)

By Lisa Schenker Chicago Tribune



# Wellness & Support - StoryCorner

[Home](#)
[Empower](#)
[Edu](#)

Gene

Steve W.

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Alan  
Lucinda

Larry H.

Kenneth

Peter V.

Jose D.

Caleb W.

Angel L.





Naloxone Training



**Naloxone**

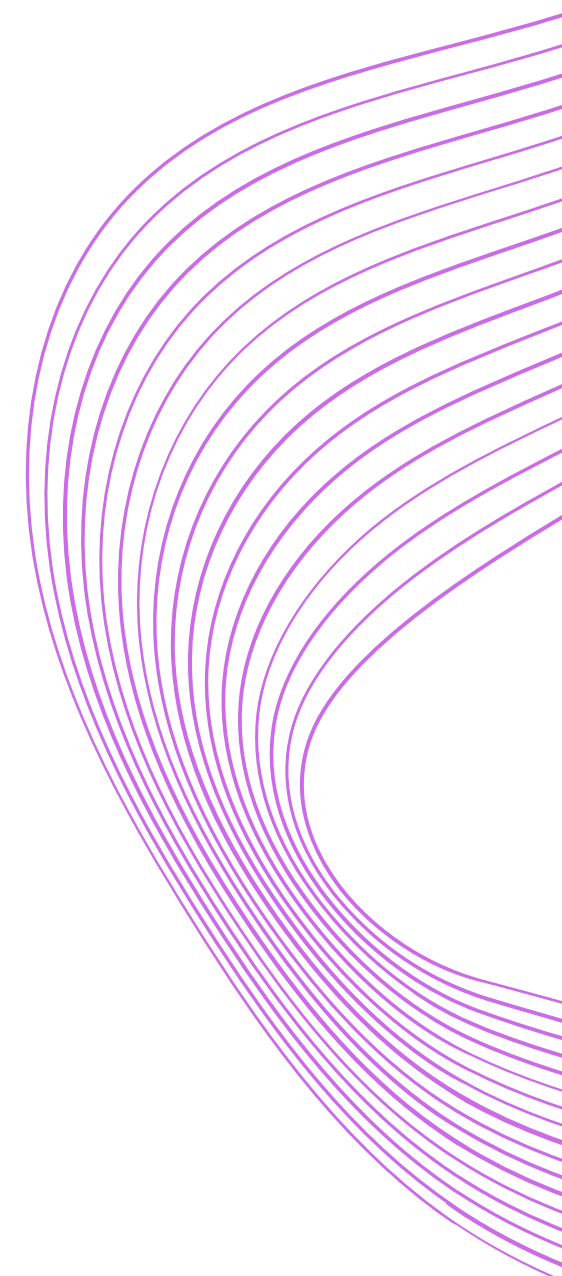
Information video on overdose awareness and naloxone administration, featuring Dan Bigg, Sarz Maxwell and some of the participants from the Chicago Recovery Alliance. Watch video [View on YouTube](#)

🌐 Chicago Recovery Alliance / Nigel Brunsdon / Oct 9, 2018



Successful treatments that work for everyone

Integration of resources to support ongoing monitoring



- Caring Ambassadors Program
- Chicago Recovery Alliance
- Live 4 Lali
- Mental Health America of the North Shore





# In conclusion...

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## What's Next?

- Implement these tools
- Share the webinars with your colleagues
- Cure your patients

## Obtaining CEU's & Attendance Certificates

- *Don't forget* to take the pre and post-test surveys to receive CEU's or Certificates of Completion!

## Access to Tools

Access to tools, resources, slides, and activities can all be found at <https://hepcchallenge.org/bigg/>

## Questions?

[BiggInfo@CaringAmbassadors.org](mailto:BiggInfo@CaringAmbassadors.org)

