Dear Friends and Donors,

Thanks to the generous support of donors and friends like you, the Asian Liver Center continued to make great strides in 2008 towards the global eradication of hepatitis B (HBV) and liver cancer.

This year, your support has helped us complete the vaccination and education of over 600,000 children in Qinghai, China. We also partnered with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to launch a new global initiative targeting the 41 countries that account for 76% of the global burden of HBV. And, our advocacy efforts helped make HBV screening and vaccination become standards of quality care in the US. Your support has also made possible the countless outreach, education, and research efforts detailed in the following pages.

Despite our accomplishments, much work remains. HBV and liver cancer take nearly a million lives each year, yet global attention and funding are still lacking. We hope that you will continue to support our efforts in 2009. Every dollar you give goes towards the fight against HBV and liver cancer.

On behalf of the Asian Liver Center family, we wish you and your family a very happy, healthy Year of the Ox!

Thank you,

Samuel K. So, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Director, Asian Liver Center
Director, Liver Cancer Program
Lui Hac Minh Professor
Stanford University School of Medicine
Community Outreach & Team HBV

Team HBV is the national coalition of student organizations and volunteers working with the Asian Liver Center to spread awareness about hepatitis B and liver cancer. Collegiate Team HBV has chapters at Cornell, Duke, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, Harvard, Wesleyan, and the University of Pennsylvania. Chapters organize numerous outreach events on their campuses and in surrounding communities. The Jade Ribbon Youth Council (JRYC) is comprised of fifteen energetic, dedicated, and innovative Bay Area high school students, who volunteer at community outreach events in San Francisco and San Jose, and coordinate to hold an annual multi-city Hepatitis B Awareness Week.

OUTREACH

Amy Chao with Qinghai students

Qinghai

The Qinghai province is a remote, often neglected rural region of China with a high prevalence of chronic hepatitis B. Since many children five years of age and older in Qinghai were not vaccinated against HBV, a private-public partnership was formed between the ZeShan Foundation, the Ping and Amy Chao Foundation, the Asian Liver Center, the China Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Chinese Foundation for Hepatitis Prevention and Control, and the Qinghai local government. Using the existing provincial China CDC structure, this private-public partnership resulted in a unique two-part school-based immunization program to educate and provide free hep B vaccination for all kindergarten and grade school children in the region.

600,000 children in 2,200 schools

Hepatitis B education program incorporated into the school curriculum.

Prevention in Santa Clara County

In March 2008, ALC launched a hepatitis B screening and vaccination site at the Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI) center in San Jose, CA. Of the 500 people tested, 9.29% were chronically infected, confirming the need to screen the API population in Santa Clara County. The campaign site offers low-cost HAV and HBV vaccinations and HBV screening. Much thanks to the California Department of Public Health and AACI.

6th Annual Youth Leadership Conference

The 6th Annual Youth Leadership Conference on Asian and Pacific Islander Health brought together 100 high school students from across the country to tackle actual healthcare issues recognized by the World Health Organization during the team challenge. In addition to the 5 high school hepatitis B awareness groups formed by YLC Class of 2008 students, nearly half of the participants applied for the 2008-2009 Jade Ribbon Youth Council.

The ALC hosted the 3rd Annual LIVERight 5K run/walk on May 17, 2009 in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. The awareness fundraiser attracted over 600 runners and their families to enjoy an educational race and lively performances, and raised over $100,000. Team HBV volunteers held educational signs with hepatitis B and liver cancer facts along the race route.

Join us for LIVERight 2009
May 2, 2009
http://liver.stanford.edu/yrc

Join us for YLC 2009
August 5 - 8, 2009
http://liver.stanford.edu/ylc
Protecting Moms and Newborns

To eliminate mother-to-child transmission of hepatitis B, we developed new tools to educate chronically infected pregnant women and the physicians that care for them. We designed and produced innovative “New Diagnosis Packets” and “Hospital Discharge Packets,” which are culturally targeted toolkits that educate pregnant women about HBV and inform them on how to protect themselves and their newborns against HBV infection. In addition, we have also launched physician and nursing staff educational programs in partnership with the Alameda and Santa Clara County Departments of Public Health. As an early marker of our success, we have already been invited to share our novel strategies at four national conferences in 2009.

Conferences and Presentations

American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for the Study of Liver Disease
   Presentation at CDC corner
Asian Leadership Conference
CDC Health Marketing Conference
   Presentation on Youth Leadership Conference
   Presentation on Jade Ribbon Campaign
National Business Group on Health
National Conference on Immunization
National Youth Leadership Forum
Hosted 5th Annual Hepatitis B Symposium for
   Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners
Hosted 6th Annual Youth Leadership Conference

2008 Research Publications

Attitude towards hepatitis B and liver cancer prevention among
   Chinese Americans in the San Francisco Bay Area, California
Clinical trial of imatinib in late stage liver cancer
Identification of potential liver cancer diagnostic markers
   using a protein chip
Using gene silencing by small interfering RNA as a novel
   approach to treat liver cancer
Inhibition of NDRG1 gene slows liver cancer cell growth

Saving Lives: San Francisco Hep B Free Campaign

In its second year, the SF Hep B Free Campaign continues to screen and
   vaccinate Asian and Pacific Islanders in San Francisco, host
   community events, and educate physicians. The campaign launched an
   engaging advertising campaign: “B a Hero.” Displayed on buildings
   and buses across San Francisco, the ads depict everyday individuals
   as heroes, who save their friends and family by educating them about
   hepatitis B and encouraging them to get tested and vaccinated.
Thank you!

We would like to thank all our donors, with special recognition to our Jade and Gold Sponsors:

**Jade Sponsors ($100,000+)**
- Ping and Amy Chao Family Foundation
- Paul R. and Tammy Davis
- Mrs. T. S. Kwok

**Gold Sponsors ($10,000 - $100,000)**
- Ba Van Le
- Chinese Cancer Memorial Foundation: Tsai Chin Concert
- C.J. and Ha Lin Yip Huang
- Lui Hac Minh Foundation
- Anna Ng Foundation
- The So Family
- Zeshan Foundation
- Daniel Zheng

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Supported by the cost-effective study published by the ALC, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released expanded hepatitis B guidelines in September 2008 that recommend screening all people in the US who were born in Asia, Africa, and countries where the prevalence of chronic HBV infection is 2% or greater. The guidelines focus on routine screening, education, long-term monitoring, and treatment of infected patients.

Recommendations also call for healthcare providers to provide culturally-appropriate patient education and the screening and vaccination of household members of infected individuals.

ALC advocacy efforts helped shape the new strategies recently released by the US Department of Health, Office of Minority Health to address chronic hepatitis B. The report recognized chronic HBV as a major health disparity for Asian and Pacific Islanders. It also calls for more health education, awareness and screenings, improved access to care and treatment, and increased research to eliminate chronic hepatitis B.

The ALC and US CDC introduced three measures on hepatitis B which were adopted by the National Quality Forum (NQF) as health care performance standards:

1) All foreign-born adults from endemic areas should be screened for hepatitis B
2) Hepatitis B vaccine administration to all newborns prior to hospital discharge
3) Birth dose of hepatitis B vaccine within 12 hours of birth and hepatitis immune globulin (HBlg) for newborns of mothers with chronic hepatitis B.

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US Congressman Mike Honda and California State Assemblywoman Fiona Ma continue to be strong hepatitis B advocates and supporters of the ALC.

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**ADVOCACY**

Asia and Pacific Alliance to Eliminate Viral Hepatitis (APAVH)

The CDC and ALC organized the inaugural Partners’ Meeting of the Asia and Pacific Alliance to Eliminate Viral Hepatitis (APAVH), a new sustainable regional coalition that will prevent new infections and reduce the mortality and morbidity associated with viral hepatitis through education, advocacy, vaccination, and treatment. By focusing on the 41 countries in the Western Pacific and South East Asia regions, which account for 76% of the global burden of chronic HBV infection, APAVH will spearhead the development and advocate for the adoption of comprehensive policies that will ultimately lead to the global elimination of chronic hepatitis B infection. After the Partners’ Meeting, APAVH received its first official commitment from the Zeshan Foundation, a private charitable foundation based in Hong Kong. The Clinton Global Initiative, a convening of global leaders to devise and implement innovative solutions to some of the world’s most pressing challenges, recognized and endorsed the Zeshan Foundation Commitment to Action at the Clinton Global Initiative Asia Meeting in Hong Kong on December 2, 2008.

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Glocal health leaders convened in San Francisco on November 2, 2008 at the first APAVH Partners’ Meeting to launch the new alliance to eradicate hepatitis B.