

July 2020

INSIDE

InterCommunity

A LOOK INSIDE
THE WORK WE DO
& THE INSPIRING PEOPLE
WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN



**InterCommunity
Health Care**

Health Care for the Whole Person

InterCommunity Supports Black Communities

COVID-19 Update: More Testing Locations

Coronavirus Testing *at* InterCommunity



Find out if you or a member of your family have coronavirus.

Adults and children can now be tested at

InterCommunity Health Care offices in Hartford, East Hartford and South Windsor.

Hartford:

Mon., Wed. & Fri.
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Tues. & Thurs.
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

16 Coventry Street

East Hartford:

Wednesdays & Fridays

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

281 Main Street

South Windsor:

Mondays & Wednesdays

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

828 Sullivan Ave.

- Walk up testing all locations
- No doctor's order or appointment needed
- Testing for adults and children
- Test is a self-administered nasal swab
- Bring identification and insurance card
- InterCommunity will call you with the results of your test
- Insurance and uninsured accepted

Help us stop the spread of coronavirus. Get tested today.

Please wear a face mask, scarf or bandanna and observe social distancing of 6 feet while waiting to be tested.

Spotlight on Our Staff: Detox Center

"What we do is important, every single day."

Kimberley Bouchard, R.N., BSN, feels she's lucky that she found her niche in life. She was in the Army for ten years before she went into nursing, and her first job when she got her degree was at InterCommunity's detox center, formerly known as ADRC. She's been working there as a detox nurse for 23 years.

"It was the first job I applied for. I loved it, and I never left," she stated. "I'm passionate about recovery. I have endless hope and aspirations for the clients."

As the detox RN leader, Kimberley feels that part of her job is to inspire her staff, as well as clients, especially during these difficult times. "I'm proud and happy to be part of InterCommunity and glad we've been able to provide services during the pandemic. A lot of people are struggling with mental health and substance use issues, and we've seen a lot of new faces."

Kimberley grew up in Colchester but attended church in Hartford, and knew early on that she wanted to help people make positive changes in their lives. "What we do is important,



every single day, and I'm grateful to be part of it."

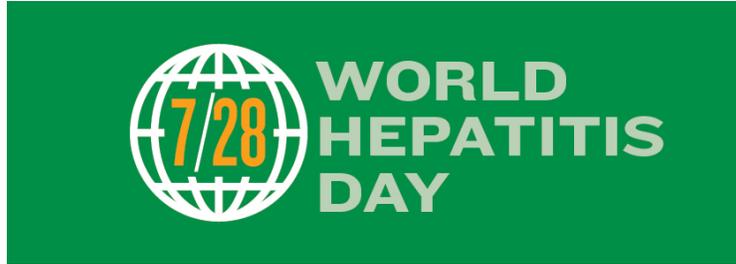
Hepatitis C

July 28 is [World Hepatitis Day](#), calling attention to the worldwide effort to combat viral hepatitis.

The CDC recommends that all adults age 18 and older, pregnant women, and those with other risk factors get

[tested](#) for hepatitis C. It is the most common blood-borne infection in the country. For reasons not fully understood, many people with hepatitis C are baby boomers born between 1945-1965, and many don't even know that they have the virus. The hepatitis C virus (HCV) is primarily spread through contact with blood from an infected person. It is thought that many baby boomers became infected from contaminated blood products before screening procedures were implemented in 1992, from sharing needles, or from medical equipment or procedures before universal precautions and infection control procedures were widely adopted. Transmission through sexual contact is believed to be low.

Hepatitis C is often described as acute or chronic. Acute hepatitis C can be a short-term illness that occurs within six months of exposure to the virus. If untreated, it often leads to chronic hepatitis C, meaning lifelong infection. The person may live for decades without symptoms, but the virus can eventually cause serious health problems, including damage to the liver, cirrhosis, and liver cancer.



Screening and Treatment of Hepatitis C



A blood test can determine if a person has ever been infected with the virus. If the blood test shows exposure to the virus, an additional follow-up test is needed to show if the person is currently infected.

While there is no vaccine for hepatitis C, treatment involving a combination of medications can cure most people. Even so, the risk of liver cancer is higher in people who already have cirrhosis caused by the virus.

