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## The power of peers, partnerships and place

Steven Drew, Hepatitis NSW

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## ACKNOWLEDGING COUNTRY

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting on. I pay my respects to elders, past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Islander people present.

Artwork by Jasmine Sarin: award-winning, Dharawal artist and graphic designer.



# The power of **PEERS**



Working towards a world free of viral hepatitis  
[www.hep.org.au](http://www.hep.org.au)

## **The power of peers ...** **drawing on life as inspiration for action**

- Diverse lived experience to engage and support others
- Bridge and navigate health care system/services
- Improving health care delivery, services and policy
- Advocacy and representation
- Challenging stigma and discrimination

**Peer-facilitated treatment access for hepatitis C: the Live Hep C Free project (Silano et al 2022)**  
<https://harmreductionjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12954-022-00619-3>

## The power of peers ... in all their guises

- Peer engagement and support workers
  - cultural support
  - lived experience
  - navigators
- EMPOWER peers
- Speakers
  - educational
  - media

# The power of **PARTNERSHIPS**



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## The power of partnerships ... through collective action

- Playing to strengths
- Maximising resources
- Broadening reach
- Increasing engagement, access treatment and cure
- Keeping it real, challenging systems and promoting change



# The power of **PLACE**



## The power of place ... beyond clinic walls

- Public health and health promotion – expanding settings and services
- Outreach
- Innovation – self testing and referral
- Personal agency

***“MY LIFE, MY CHOICE”***

# The power of ... powering **PERFORMANCE**



## Performance ...

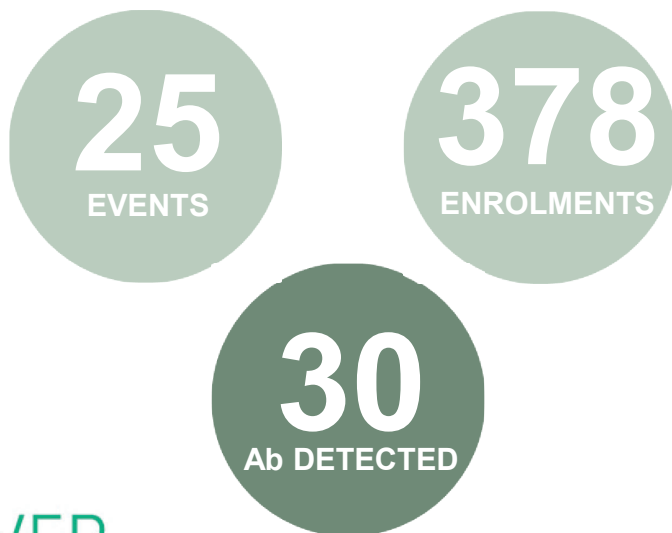
### HEP CURED *(July-August 2023)*

# of NSW activations	# HNSW Peers	# people/ interactions	# saw nurse	# HCV tests [DBS   POC   V]
<b>24 events</b>	33	892	454	<b>408</b> [226   151   31]

Campbelltown | Dubbo | Forbes | Glebe | Gosford | Goulburn | Grafton | Kogarah | Lismore [x2] | Maroubra | Miller | Mt Druitt | Newtown | Redfern [x2] | St Leonards | Surry Hills | Sutherland | Tregear | Tweed Heads | Unanderra | Wagga Wagga | Wollongong

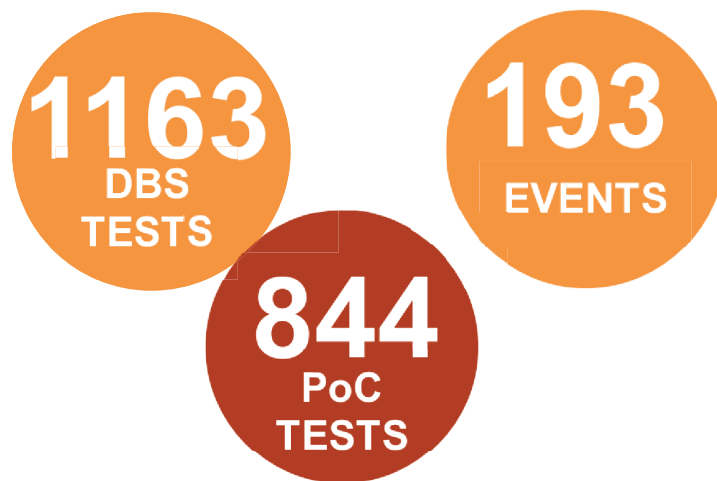
## Performance ...

**EMPOWER** *(since 23 August 2023)*



## Performance...

Peer engagements *(since 1 July 2023)*



# THANK YOU

