

Safe Points Syringe Exchange

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HARM REDUCTION SERVICES



Why Syringe Exchange?

- ▶ Sharing of HIV/HCV contaminated injection equipment (cookers, syringes, cottons and water) is a major risk factor for the transmission of HIV/HCV
- ▶ Example:
- ▶ 2015 Indiana HIV Outbreak
- ▶ Syringe Exchanges Serve as a vital access point for health and social services

SERVICES

Syringe Exchange
HIV/HCV/STD testing
Ryan White Case Management
JVMC – Free medical clinic
Youth Drug Education
Overdose Prevention & Response



Street Outreach

Monday – Saturday

various hours & locations
across several cities



What is Syringe Access/Exchange

- ▶ Syringe exchange programs (SEPs) provide free sterile syringes and collect and dispose of used syringes from injection-drug users (IDUs) to reduce transmission of blood borne pathogens, including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B virus, and hepatitis C virus (HCV).
- ▶ SEPS also function as a vital access point for HIV/HCV/STD Testing, Disease Prevention Education, AOD/Behavioral Health Referrals.

Syringe Access and Exchange: (National)

- ▶ HIV diagnoses among persons who inject drugs (PWID) declined 48% from 2008 to 2014. However, injection drug use (IDU) in nonurban areas has created prevention challenges and has placed new populations at risk for HIV. (CDC.GOV)
- ▶ In 2010, 8%(3,465) of the 43,978 diagnoses of HIV in the United States were attributed to IDU and another 2.76% were attributed to MSM/IDU
- ▶ In 2015, 6% (2,392) of the 39,513 diagnoses of HIV in the United States were attributed to IDU and another 3% were attributed to MSM/IDU

Syringe Access and Exchange: The Need (Local)

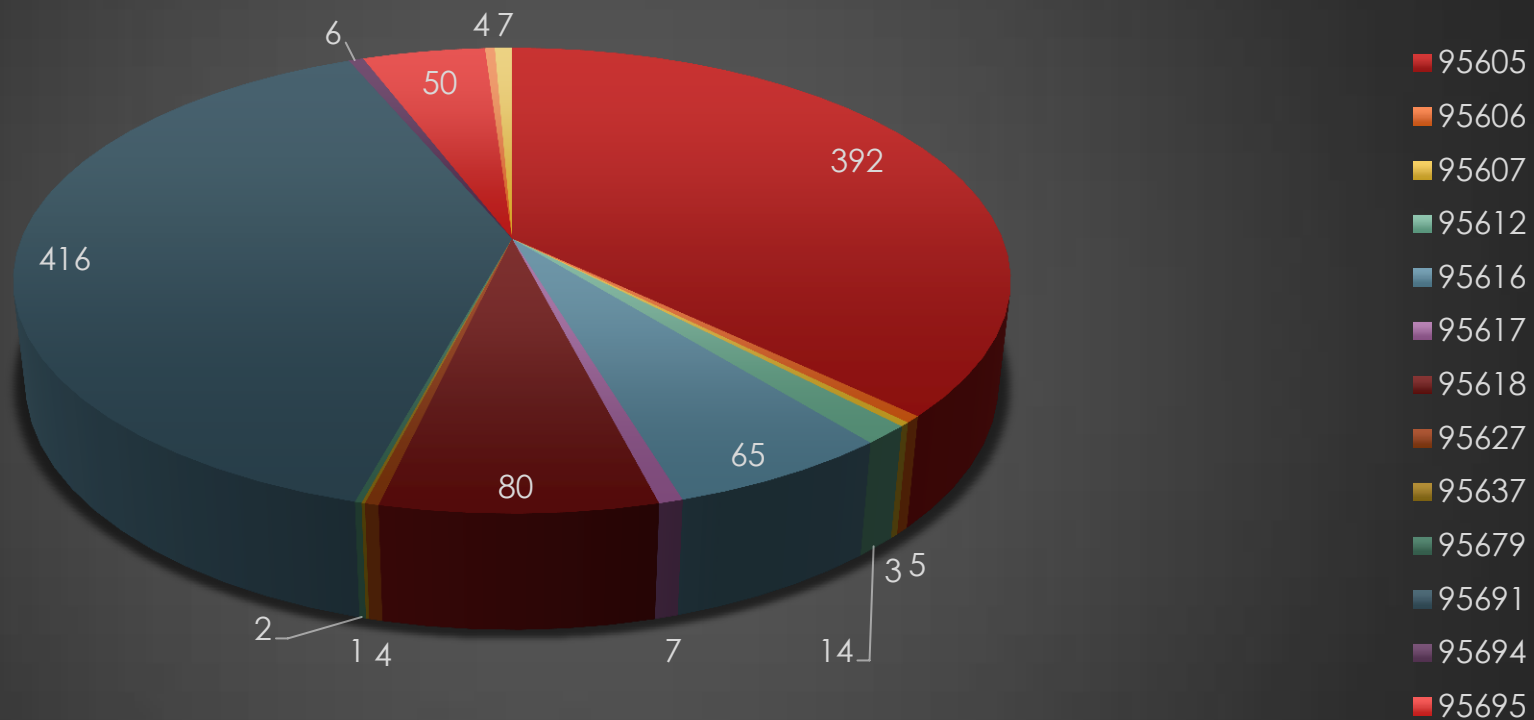
- ▶ In 2013 there were 4,376 cases of HIV diagnosed in CA.
- ▶ 168 of these were in Sacramento County & 6 were in Yolo County
- ▶ Consistent rise in both homelessness and opiate use within our region. (Intersectional Risk)
- ▶ Uptick in youth injection drug use
- ▶ Minimal to nonexistent disease prevention knowledge among youth IDU

Syringe Exchange in California

- ▶ Syringe exchange programs (SEPs) have been operating in California, providing sterile syringes, collecting used syringes, and acting as a point of access to health education and care for injection drug users (IDUs) since the late 1980s. In 2000, legislation went into effect (Assembly Bill [AB] 136 (Mazzoni, Chapter 762, Statutes of 1999) which authorized the establishment of SEPs in counties or cities that declared a local state of emergency. In 2005, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed AB 547 (Berg, Chapter 692, Statutes of 2005) which simplified the process for local authorization of SEPs by eliminating the need to declare a local state of emergency. (CDPH.GOV)
- ▶ Both Yolo County and City of Sacramento authorized syringe access in 2007.

The Numbers for 2016: Yolo County Exchange Encounters n= 1056

INTERACTION FREQUENCY BY ZIP CODE



The Numbers for 2016: Yolo County

10735 Used Syringes Safely Disposed Of
(2016 -18.43%) (2015 – 11%)

58237 New Syringes Distributed

84% of participants receive another
health related service or referral info.

HIV/STD/HCV test,
AOD Services
Risk Reduction Education
Health and Hygiene Supply
Food Access
Naloxone Training



Our Vision For 2017:

Secure Funding To Provide Mobile HIV/HCV Testing and Exchange in Yolo County
(Currently we are bound by Sacramento County Specific Funding for Testing)

Expand our Referral Capacity by networking with more providers in Yolo County