SYRINGE SERVICE PROGRAMS IN NORTH DAKOTA

REQUIREMENTS AND BEST PRACTICES

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ND HIV.STD.TB.VIRAL HEPATITIS SYMPOSIUM
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SSPS IN ND: AUTHORIZATION

- Senate Bill 2320
  - North Dakota Century Code
    - 19-03.4-02: Drug Paraphernalia
    - 23-01-44: SSP Authorization
  - In 2019: Senate Bill 2198
- State Health Department is given Authority to Authorizes Qualified Agency to Operate a Program
- **Effective: August 1, 2017**
- No State General Funds Allocated for SSPs
Guide outlines the requirements put forth by ND Law of what SSP programs must do.

Guidance on the evidence based methods to meet those requirements.

- Every SSP will look different based on local need and comfort of stakeholders.
- Not a prescription for program contents.

Guidance will evolve overtime to provide clarity and additional resources as they become available.
QUALIFIED ENTITY

**Type of Entity**
- Local Health Department
- City Government (program operational within the boundary of the city only)
- Organization with approval from city or county officials

**Letters of Support**
- Organizations that are not Local Health Departments or City Governments must provide letters of support from local officials for the operation of the SSP within a defined boundary.
- City/County Government
- Law Enforcement Entities

**Medical Supervisor Identified for SSP**
- The SSP must be developed and maintained under the supervision of pharmacist, physician or advance practice registered nurse who is licensed in the state to provide oversight and consultation to the program.
WHAT DOES A SSP NEED TO SUBMIT?

- Letter Addressed to State Health Officer
- Administrative Documents
  - Entity Overview
  - Community Support
  - Public Hearing
  - Financial Sustainability Statement
- Determination of Need
- Policies and Procedures Plan
- Evaluation Plan

Note: Draft Update to ND SSP Guidance, June 2019
LETTER TO STATE HEALTH OFFICER
ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS

- **Entity Overview**
  - Agency Information: Description, Mission, Services Delivered, Populations to be Served, Governing Bodies, Primary Contact, Medical Supervisor

- **Community Support**
  - Community Readiness and Support

- **Public Hearing**
  - Occurs after Program Policy and Procedures Complete

- **Financial Sustainability Statement**
  - Financial Plan
Is your area experiencing an increase or at risk of an increase of viral hepatitis or HIV?
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES PLAN

- Eligibility Criteria for Participants
- Location
- Transaction Model
- Participant Documentation
- Disposal
- Medical Services
- Staff Training
- Staff Safety
DATA ENTRY TOOL

- Tracking Participants Over Time
- Information from NDDoH Forms – Modifiable Per Site
- Reports – Coming Soon
EVALUATION PLAN

- Short and Long Term Objectives
- Ex. By December 31, 2020, the SSP will serve 100 individuals.
- Plans are to be submitted to disease@nd.gov.
- Review: 10 business days.
- Provide a determination: Authorized, Revisions Required, Denied.
- Authorized for 1 Year
**North Dakota Syringe Service Program**

**Biannual Report**

**July 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018**

**Programs in North Dakota**

As of December 31, 2018, there are three authorized programs operating in North Dakota:

- Mandan Good Neighbor Project
  - Operated by Dakota Health, Mandan
- Harm Reduction Center
  - Operated by Fargo Cass Public Health, Fargo
- Minot Good Neighbor Project
  - Operated by First District Health Unit, Minot

**350 individuals** were served in total by both programs in the reporting period.

This is a 13.7% increase from the previous reporting period.

**Demographic Information**

Of the 350 individuals that received services, they were from 10 known counties. Those counties include Burleigh, Burleigh, Cote, Grand Forks, Mountrail, Morton, Ramsey, Stutsman, Sioux, and Ward. There were eight clients who declined to share their county of residence and sixty-five clients from Minnesota.

55% of persons served identified as male and 45% identified as female. The remaining 5% either were unknown or identify as another gender. Below is a chart that shows the breakdown of self-reported race/ethnicity.

- **White,** 65% (227)
- **Hispanic,** 13% (45)
- **Black/African American,** 23% (81)
- **Other/Unknown,** 6% (21)

**46%** of distributed syringes were returned.

**Services Information**

- **There were 88 individuals** who received testing services (HIV, hepatitis C or STDs).
- Harm reduction education was provided to 525 individuals, and 3,738 condoms were distributed.
- **35 clients** requested and received referral to substance abuse treatment services.

During the reporting period, there were 48,612 syringes distributed and approximately 21,417 collected. The number of syringes collected could be underreported. An actual count of syringes does not take place, rather they are estimated by the participants and workers by weight or sight within a biohazard container. SSP workers are instructed not to handle syringes or dig within biohazard containers as this is when an accidental needlestick could occur.

Information collected on the substances reported by participants in the 30 days prior to enrollment at the SSP are described below: Prescription meds, suboxone and methadone responses indicated that these substances were used not as prescribed. Mox was the primary substance reported with 74% of participants indicating use.

Naloxone is available for distribution at both SSP locations. 549 doses of naloxone were distributed to participants to use when needed to help save the life of a person experiencing overdose due to opioid use.

**REPORTING**

- Reports January 15 and July 15 each year for the previous six month time period. Reports must be sent to disease@nd.gov.
- Information to be reported semi-annually includes:
  - Number of unique participants served
  - Non-identifying demographic information of participants (gender, race, ethnicity, county of residence, substances used, etc.) if collected
  - Approximate number of syringes collected
  - Number of syringes distributed
  - Number of individuals offered or referred to services for:
    - HIV, STD and Viral Hepatitis Testing
    - Addiction Treatment Services
  - Number of doses of naloxone distributed
  - Number of condoms distributed
SSP PROGRAM CONTACTS

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WHERE TO GO FOR MORE INFO?