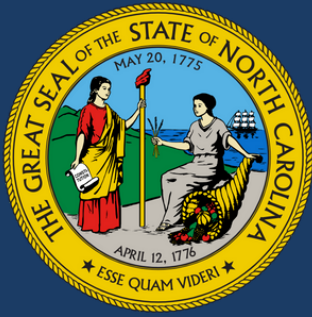


NORTH CAROLINA SAFER SYRINGE INITIATIVE



As of July 11, 2016, North Carolina law (G.S. 90-113.27) allows for the legal establishment of hypodermic syringe and needle services programs. Since legalization, syringe services programs (SSPs) across the state have provided lifesaving support to North Carolinians. These are some of the successes to-date based on the objectives stated in the law.

OBJECTIVE 1: REDUCE THE SPREAD OF HIV, AIDS, VIRAL HEPATITIS, AND OTHER BLOODBORNE DISEASES IN THIS STATE



**19.4
Million**

sterile syringes distributed

5,328

Hepatitis C tests conducted

11,888

HIV tests conducted

EACH STERILE **SYRINGE DISTRIBUTED** IS A POTENTIAL NEW CASE OF HIV, HCV, OR ENDOCARDITIS **AVOIDED**

OBJECTIVE 2: REDUCE NEEDLE STICK INJURIES TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND OTHER EMERGENCY PERSONNEL



**6.9
Million**

sterile syringes directly disposed

**+
countless
more**

EACH USED **SYRINGE DISPOSED OF PROPERLY** IS A POTENTIAL NEEDLE STICK INJURY **AVOIDED**

disposed of properly due to the distribution of sharps containers and education by SSPs

OBJECTIVE 3: ENCOURAGE INDIVIDUALS WHO USE DRUGS ILLICITLY TO ENROLL IN EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENT

220,173

documented interactions with participants

Interactions include service provision, education, and linkage to care.



PEOPLE WHO USE SSPS ARE **THREE TIMES MORE LIKELY** TO REPORT LESS FREQUENT INJECTION THAN THOSE WHO DO NOT USE SSPS

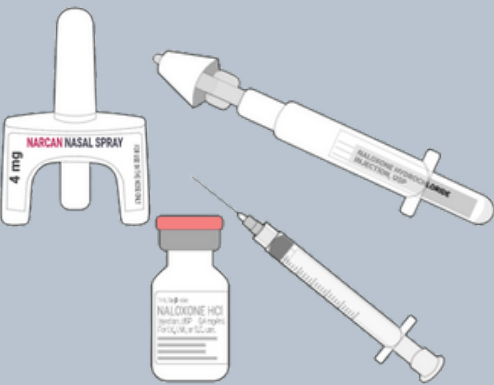
12,113

treatment referrals

+ countless more opportunities for engagement in a positive direction

PEOPLE WHO USE SSPS ARE **FIVE TIMES MORE LIKELY** TO ENTER TREATMENT THAN THOSE WHO DO NOT USE SSPS.

OBJECTIVE 4: REDUCE THE NUMBER OF DRUG OVERDOSES IN OUR STATE



202,746

naloxone kits distributed

30,722

overdose reversals reported to SSPs

+ countless more that have gone unreported

Numbers alone cannot quantify the true impact of SSPs. The stories of care, compassion, and understanding are limitless. North Carolinians are healthier because of SSPs. More North Carolinians are alive because of SSPs.



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health

Chronic Disease & Injury Section • Injury and Violence Prevention Branch •
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