

County of Santa Cruz SSP Program Update

SSP Advisory Commission
September 14, 2021
Rahshan Williams, SSP Program
Coordinator

Current Activities – Rahshan Williams

Goal: prevent disease, link to treatment and services, improve public safety

- August 2021 SSP report and comparison to August 2020
- HIV/HCV testing
- Watsonville Exchange update
- Participant Surveys

The Santa Cruz County SSP Posts Data Reports Monthly @ [Syringe Services Program \(santacruzhealth.org\)](https://santacruzhealth.org)

1. Data reports reflect program usage by participants and persons who conduct secondary exchange
2. Data reports reflect demographics of persons using our exchanges including but not limited to:
 - Area of residence
 - Ethnicity
 - Age group
 - Housing status
 - Injectable Drugs used

Data is taken from our posted reports from this past August (2021) and August (2020)

We will look at

- Participant use of Santa Cruz Exchange and Watsonville Exchange
- SSP Syringe dispensation and collection via Exchanges and Kiosks
- Naloxone distribution
- Education and referrals

August 2020 Monthly Reporting

	Emeline Clinic		Watsonville Clinic		TOTAL	
	<u>COUNT</u>	<u>% per Clinic</u>	<u>COUNT</u>	<u>% per Clinic</u>	<u>COUNT</u>	<u>% per Clinic</u>
Total Visits	172	85%	29	15%	201	100%
		<u>% of UNIQUE IDs</u>		<u>% of UNIQUE IDs</u>		<u>% of UNIQUE IDs</u>
Unique IDs	114	100%	23	100%	135	100%
Clients who came to both clinics	--		--		0	
Frequency of Visits						
Single Visit in time period	84	74%	18	78%	102	76%
Multiple Visits in time period	30	26%	5	22%	33	24%

Participant usage of our Exchanges has Declined

- Participant usage of our County Exchanges has declined at both exchanges by approximately **27%** when comparing Unique Client IDs from August 2020 and 2021 data
- Overall visits have declined **33%**

Syringes Dispensed and Collected by the Santa Cruz County SSP

- The Santa Cruz SSP only distributes syringes through our Exchanges
- Syringe Collection is conducted via Exchanges and Kiosks
- Hours of operation have not changed at our exchanges (Santa Cruz and Watsonville) since last August
- We have deployed 2 additional Kiosks since August of 2020 working with the City of Santa Cruz to decide on their locations

Syringe distribution and collection via our exchanges has declined

- We are distributing and collecting approximately **40%** of the number of syringes this year compared to last when looking at our August #s
- When comparing our Watsonville exchange in isolation the decline is less and down approximately **25%** for syringe distribution and **15%** syringe collection

Syringe disposal via Kiosk use is up

- We collected approximately **33%** more syringes via our Kiosks this August (2021) when compared to last August (2020)

Naloxone Distribution

- **We continue to distribute Narcan via our exchanges and act as a recourse for Narcan access and training for our community partners**

August 2021

Narcan Kits

Dispensed

449

Reversals out of

Overdose⁷

40

August 2020

Narcan Kits

Dispensed

173

Reversals out of

Overdose

32

Overdoses Reversed

- Overdose reversed are reported by primary participants and do not account for the #s of reversals performed using Narcan distributed via our exchanges

Education and Referrals

We have increased our efforts to engage with participants during each encounter emphasizing education on:

- overdose prevention
- Treatment for Substance use disorder
- Harm reduction

Education Offered August (2021)									
Drug Treatment							124	93%	
Harm Reduction Education							131	98%	
Referred to Pharmacy							0	0%	
Medical Referral							24	18%	
HIV / Hep C Testing							2	1%	
Overdose Prevention							123	92%	

Education Offered (August 2020)									
Drug Treatment							6	3%	
Harm Reduction Education							191	95%	
Referred to Pharmacy							0	0%	
Medical Referral							12	6%	
HIV / Hep C Testing							0	0%	
Overdose Prevention							152	76%	

We are considering a format change to our data entry to better reflect the difference between education offered and referrals

- This may include the elimination of fields such as referrals to pharmacies
- This may include the medical referral field being made more specific (e.g., wound care, syringe consult)

HIV/HCV testing

- We are moving our target date of October as a start for HIV/HCV testing and linkage to care to November
- We will change our Wednesday afternoon Watsonville Exchange hours from **3:30pm-4:30pm** to **2:30pm-3:30pm** starting in October to allow us to offer testing for HIV/HCV during the shift and access to the clinic lab for confirmatory testing

Watsonville Exchange Construction

- We continue to operate our Watsonville exchange out of Suite A on the 1430 Freedom Blvd. Campus
- Construction should be complete, and we should be moving into the new exchange in the coming month

Participant Surveys

- We will begin conducting Monthly participant surveys in October
- We will start with asking our participants the times they would prefer our Watsonville exchange's two additional authorized hours be added
- Other surveys may include feedback on supplies and supply kits offered, additional education desired, etc.

Thank you very much