

County of Santa Cruz SSP Program Update

SSP Advisory Commission
March 08, 2022
Rahshan Williams, SSP Program
Coordinator

Current Activities – Rahshan Williams

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

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- **MySantaCruzCounty App**
 - **Encounters without syringe distribution**
 - **Supplies from SSP's**
 - **Safe disposal**
 - **Monthly Report Format**

Continuing to work on collecting syringe litter data

- Developing flyers for promotion of app
- Continue to receive reports of syringe litter collected
- Gathering information on historical reports of syringe litter



Exchange
Access
without
syringe
distribution

15% of our encounters in December 2021 did not include syringe distribution

23% in January 2022

30% in February 2022



Reasons for 0 Syringe distribution in February 2022

7 participants turned
away/referred out due to policy

Persons using exchange for
syringe disposal only

Persons accessing Harm
Reduction Supplies

Smoking Kits and Harm Reduction

In February, 2022 our exchanges saw 16 new participants

(50%) 8 of the new participants wanted access to syringes

(80%) 13 of 16 wanted access to a Safer smoking kit



Letter Marisa Ramos,
PhD
Office of AIDS Division
Chief
Centers for Infectious
Diseases
California Department
of Public Health

- [Dear-Colleague-Changes-to-Drug-Paraphernalia-Laws-Lttr 2022.pdf](#)

Change in Drug Paraphernalia Laws and Effects on Public Health Programs

Key Points

- Anyone may possess an unlimited number of syringes for personal use in California. No one should be arrested, prosecuted, or denied services based on syringe possession for personal use.

- Anyone may possess safer drug use materials, including pipes and other non-injection drug use materials, when acquired from an SSP. SSP participants are exempt from criminal prosecution for possession of such items, and the law does not require documentation of having acquired the materials from an SSP.

- State and local government authorization of SSPs is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Kiosk Syringe Collection



Felker St. Kiosk has been repaired and is back in operation

Total Visits	100	85%	17	15%	117	100%
Type of Visit		<u>% of VISITS</u>		<u>% of VISITS</u>		<u>% of VISITS</u>
Primary (Syringes for Self Only)	47	47%	11	65%	58	50%
Secondary (Self and Others)	50	50%	6	35%	56	48%
Others Only	3	3%	0	0%	3	3%
		<u>AVG #</u>		<u>AVG #</u>		<u>AVG #</u>
		<u>PER VISIT</u>		<u>PER VISIT</u>		<u>PER VISIT</u>
Syringes Collected	11,641	116	1,287	76	12,928	110
Syringes Dispensed	10,191	102	1,287	76	11,478	98
#Collected - #Dispensed	1,450	15	0	0	1,450	12
#Syringes Dispensed per Visit ⁶		<u>% of VISITS</u>		<u>% of VISITS</u>		<u>% of VISITS</u>
0	17	17%	2	12%	19	16%
1 - 24	11	11%	2	12%	13	11%
25 - 49	38	38%	1	6%	46	39%
50 - 99	29	29%	3	18%	33	28%
100-199	20	20%	8	47%	28	24%
200+	21	21%	1	6%	22	19%
Syringes Deposited in Kiosks (lbs) ⁵	--	--	--	--	54,019	574
Narcan Kits Dispensed	272		5		277	--
Reversals out of Overdose ⁷	2	--	0	--	2	--

Thank you

