

County of Santa Cruz SSP Program Update

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

Current Activities – Rahshan Williams

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

Staffing

- CHRI Health Program Specialist

Distribution and Collection

- Encounters without syringe distribution

Safe Disposal

- Sharps Lock Boxes for City of Santa Cruz
- Kiosk repair

Enhanced Referrals

- Housing Referrals



Alejandra Tepozteco

Staffing of our Watsonville Exchange and Community Outreach

Fluent Spanish and English

Certified HIV/HCV test Counselor

Experience volunteering in the S.C. Exchange

Collaborating with C.A.B.

City of Watsonville Litter Abatement
organizations

Improving SSP outreach with HPHP

Syringe Distribution

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One for one
exchange
and referrals
for Syringe
Access

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



Reasons for 0 Syringe distribution

Persons only wanting
supplies

Persons using exchange
for syringe disposal only

Persons who do not have
syringes to exchange

Tracking
education
or referrals
for syringe
access

Letting participants know our
policy

Refer to clinic

Refer to pharmacy

Refer to HRC of SCC



Easier
Access For
Syringe
Disposal

- Distributed Syringe Lock boxes for 1220 River St. Encampment
- Working to Repair Kiosk on Levee at Felker St.

Improving Referrals



Referrals and Education for persons experiencing homelessness

Santa Cruz Free Guide

Safe parking

Encampment Closures

Housing navigation

City of Santa Cruz Managed Encampments



Thank you
