Agenda
1. Roll Call/Introductions
2. Agenda Review
3. Review Mandate
   SCCC2.125/Code of Conduct
4. Review & Approval of By-Laws
5. Orientation to Santa Cruz County Syringe Services Program
   1) Public Health
   2) SSP Program Overview
   3) SSP Budget
6. Election of Officers
7. Public Comment (3 min)
8. New Business/Action Items
9. Adjournment

November 10, 2020
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Microsoft Teams

Support staff for this commission provided by the Health Services Agency (HSA)
Santa Cruz County SSP Advisory Commission

Roll Call & Introductions

- Board Appointees
  - 1st District: Angela Chesnut
  - 2nd District: Jim Hart
  - 3rd District: Damon Bruder
  - 4th District: Eric Sturm
  - 5th District: Sharon DeJong
  - At-Large: Les Gardner
  - At-Large: Patty King

- HSA Support Staff
  - Jennifer Herrera, Chief of Public Health
  - Megan Holland, Admin Services Manager
  - Socorro Gutierrez, Health Services Manager
  - Rahshan Williams, Program Coordinator
  - Emily Chung, Public Health Manager
Commission Membership

2.125.020 Membership.
The Syringe Services Program Advisory Commission shall consist of seven voting members, residents of the County, appointed by the Board of Supervisors in the following manner:

• (A) Each Supervisor shall nominate one person who may reside within the Supervisor’s district; and

• (B) The remaining two members shall be appointed at-large. [Ord. 5315 § 1, 2019].

2.125.030 Term of office.
Each member nominated by an individual Supervisor shall serve for a term of four years, commencing on April 1st of the year in which such member’s nominating Supervisor begins a full term. At-large members shall serve for a term of four years, commencing on the date of appointment. [Ord. 5315 § 1, 2019].
Powers and Duties

The Syringe Services Program Advisory Commission shall exercise the following responsibilities:

• (A) Help increase coordination between agencies, departments, jurisdictions and other stakeholders related to the delivery of services provided by the Syringe Services Program;

• (B) Review policies related to the delivery of services under the Syringe Services Program and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding any proposed changes;

• (C) Review pending State and Federal legislation that may impact the Syringe Services Program, consumers, and/or providers and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding any proposed changes;

• (D) Stay informed and educated on syringe services and related public health strategies; and

• (E) Provide a forum for consumers and other parties interested in syringe services to contribute ideas to policy and program development. [Ord. 5315 § 1, 2019].
191.1 Equal Employment Opportunity/Nondiscrimination Policy

• The County of Santa Cruz is committed to equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimination in all personnel transactions.

• Harassment, discrimination and retaliation are unacceptable and are prohibited in the work environment per State and Federal laws. The County will not tolerate such behavior by any of its employees, managers, officials, volunteers, clients, advisory and commission members, contractors or vendors.

• Harassment includes but is not limited to:
  • Verbal harassment
  • Physical harassment
  • Visual forms of harassment
  • Sexual advances

County of Santa Cruz Personnel Regulations, Equal Employment Opportunity/Nondiscrimination Policy:
http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Portals/0/Personnel%20Files/EEO/EEOPolicy.pdf?ver=iAOwE7kkEHXGoOPHePLotg%3d%3d
Values

Collaboration
Working in teams and partnering with others to achieve our goals and visions

Community-Focus
Ensuring that community members are able to participate and have a voice in our work

Compassion
Demonstrating understanding, empathy, and kindness with patients, clients, colleagues, and the whole community

Equity
Ensuring full and equal access to programs and services that enable people to lead healthy lives

Quality
Striving toward excellence through the use of evidence-based practices and process improvement in all services and program areas

Respect
Addressing everyone with politeness and dignity while demonstrating value of individual needs and cultural diversity

Our Vision

• Better Health Every Day for Everyone

Our Mission

• To collaborate with the community to protect, promote, and improve the health and well-being of all

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Santa Cruz County
Review & Approval of By-Laws

Megan Holland,
PH Administrative Services Manager
Orientation to County SSP

Public Health Division – Jen Herrera
Program Overview – Rahshan Williams
Program Budget – Megan Holland
There are four ways to lawfully provide syringe services in California:

| California Department of Public Health may authorize syringe services programs anywhere in California. | City and county governments may authorize SSPs in their jurisdiction. | Physicians and pharmacists may provide an unlimited number of syringes without a prescription to any person age 18+. • Includes online sales | Syringes may be prescribed. |
California Law: Providing Syringes

There are four ways to lawfully provide syringe services in California:

| California Department of Public Health may authorize syringe services programs anywhere in California. | City and county governments may authorize SSPs in their jurisdiction. | Physicians and pharmacists may provide an unlimited number of syringes without a prescription to any person age 18+.  
• Includes online sales | Syringes may be prescribed. |
Core Purpose of Santa Cruz County SSP

Create a safer and healthier community

• Reduce the risk of exposure to infection and disease
• Gateway to integrated services
Syringe Services Programs (SSPs) are an evidence-based, comprehensive community-based prevention and intervention program that...

- Helps prevent transmission of blood-borne infections
- Helps stop substance use
- Helps support public safety

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, SSP Fact Sheet: [https://www.cdc.gov/ssp/syringe-services-programs-factsheet.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ssp/syringe-services-programs-factsheet.html)
## Santa Cruz County Syringe Services Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution and Collection</th>
<th>Safe Disposal</th>
<th>Enhanced Referrals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce the risk of exposure to infection and disease in Santa Cruz County through safer injection practices.</td>
<td>• Eliminate syringe litter in public spaces through proper syringe disposal.</td>
<td>• Participants are linked to clinical, behavioral, and social services when they determine they are ready for change.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
County of Santa Cruz SSP

- County Board of Supervisors
  - Health Services Agency
    - Environmental Health
    - Clinics
    - Behavioral Health
    - Public Health
      - CARe Team
      - SSP
Santa Cruz County Syringe Services Program (SSP) – Participant Overview
Rahshan Williams, Program Coordinator

Exchange locations:
Santa Cruz
1060 Emeline Ave. Room 105

Watsonville
1430 Freedom Blvd. Suite D
Welcome to the Exchange
First: Some Program Highlights and a word on our Watsonville Exchange
Program Highlights

- **407** unique participants served (1/1/20 - 9/30/20)
- **624,910 Syringes Collected** (1/1/20 - 9/30/20)
  - 321,217 Collected through Exchanges
  - 303,793 Deposited in Kiosks
- **283,258 Syringes Dispensed** (1/1/20 - 9/30/20)
- Expanded Emeline Ave. Exchange days of operation from 3 to **5 per week**
- Secured California Harm Reduction Initiative (CHRI) Grant totaling **$329,439.00** through June 30, 2023
- Installed Sharps Kiosk at 115 Coral Street
- **155.5 Volunteer** hours so far in this fiscal year
- In this calendar year participants have reported **167 overdose reversals** using Narcan distributed through our exchanges
- Directly and in **collaborated with HPHP** outreach we are distributing sharps containers, Narcan, wound care kits and other non-syringe supplies to shelters, hotels, and unhoused residents
Our Watsonville Exchange is currently being operated out of the side entrance of the clinic at 1430 Freedom Blvd. Ste. D

The Watsonville exchange is staffed by County Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) staff and volunteers
We have plans to relocate the Watsonville exchange to 1430 Freedom Blvd. Suite B.

The move would co-locate the exchange with County MAT Counselor offices.
Entry to Future Watsonville Exchange Location

- allow participants to enter the exchange with more privacy
- allow participants and staff more room within the exchange
- allow for storage of supplies
- eliminate interruptions from clinic staff and visitors
A participant’s exchange experience
COVID 19 Adjustments to exchange procedure:

Participants are screened for symptoms before entering the building

Staff control entry to limit # of participants to 3 in the exchange at once

Surfaces are sanitized between participants during shift and at the end of the shift

Installed transparent barrier between supplies and participants

Generally, participants remain in lobby during exchange

We have one exchange cubical set-up to allow for 6 feet of distancing if a participant has an issue that requires discretion
# First Time Participant and Returning Participant Encounter Scripts

**Syringe Services Order Form**

1. **What is your Client Code?**
   
   ______________________
   
   (The first two letters of your mother’s first name, the day of the month you were born, and the last two digits of the year you were born. Example: Jane Doe (mother), born November 23, 1955: JA2355)

2. **How many people are you exchanging for?**
   
   _______

3. **How many syringes are you bringing in?**
   
   _______

4. **What is the total number of syringes you would like back today?**
   
   _______ (300 max)

5. **What size of Syringes?**
   
   - 25G 1”
   - 25G 1-½”
   - 25G 5/8”
   - 25G 5/8” (BD)
   - 27G ⅝” (BD)
   - 27G ½”
   - 28G ½”
   - 29G ½”
   - 30G 5/16”
   - 30G ½”
   - 31G 5/16”

6. **Would you like Narcan?**
   
   - Nasal
   - Injectable
   - Reversals?

7. **What size(s) of sharps container would you like?**
   
   ______________________________________

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**NEW CLIENT ENTRY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Created By:</th>
<th>Drugs Injected:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Heroin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Cocaine</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Crack</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Other</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client Code:</th>
<th>Ethnicity:</th>
<th>Age:</th>
<th>Primary Language:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Homeless:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Insurance?</th>
<th>Carrier:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Exchange Encounter**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site:</th>
<th>Collect Date:</th>
<th>Needles for:</th>
<th>No. of Others</th>
<th>Needles In:</th>
<th>Needles Out:</th>
<th>Supplies Given:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Self</td>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Offered:</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug Treatment Options Discussed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/HCV Info given/referral for testing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Referral Given</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narcan Provided – No. of Narcan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harm Reduction Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy Info.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Medical Referral:</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syringes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Issues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional/Mental Issues</td>
<td>Notes:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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8. **Currently housed? Y/N**

9. **Currently insured? Y/N**
   
   Insurer? ____________________

10. **Current injectable drugs used?**

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“May I ask you a few demographic questions so that we can keep our records current.”
The SSP is anonymous program:

Anonymous codes are generated for each participant.

Participant age is embedded in the code.

Staff explain exchange policy.

Secondary exchange is commended.
How do we calculate the number of syringes in containers?

How do we handle syringe containers?
Photo Guides are used to judge the number of sharps returned for disposal.

1 quart = 80 syringes

1 gallon = 300 syringes
Loose sharps and sharps returned in bottles or other non-sharps containers are deposited in 8-gallon sharps containers by participants.
Staff check sharps containers at the end of each shift to ensure they are properly closed and place them in Biohazard Bins using sharps protective gloves.
Participants are asked about their experience using Narcan:

Provides opportunities to further educate them on proper use

Staff get information about circumstances of overdoses and can pass that information on to other participants
Narcan and Narcan education Is offered during each encounter

Reversals from overdoses are now published in our monthly reports
After completing participant encounter script, exchange staff direct participants to the supplies table.
Safer Injection, Safer Sex, Wound Care and Hygiene Supplies are available
Supplies and resource education
MAT Referrals:

We look for opportunities to refer participant for MAT counselling

We are working to increase referrals and tracking successful referrals
Every participant encounter is different. We check our database for comments on past visits and follow-up.
Improving our referrals:

We are working to implement changes to track successful referrals based on participant feedback.
Thank you!
SSP Budget Overview

Megan Holland
PH Administrative Services Manager
### SSP Program Budget

**GL Key 362210  Total $223,916**

- **Revenue**
  - NEW Grant $54,398
  - Net County Cost $169,518

- **Expenses**
  - Salary (Extra Help) $102,000
  - Supplies & Office Costs $121,916  
    - (includes $40K-$62K supplies credit)

**Non-Budgeted Program Assistance/Costs Staffing**
- PH Administration
- Manager – Socorro Gutierrez
- Coordinator – Rahshan Williams

**Costs**
- Syringe Litter Contracts
Santa Cruz County SSP Advisory Commission

Election of Officers

Megan Holland, PH Administrative Services Manager
Santa Cruz County SSP Advisory Commission

Public Comment – 3 min
Santa Cruz County SSP Advisory Commission

Next Meetings

Tuesday, Dec 8th 6pm-7:30pm
The purpose of this second meeting is to review the upcoming SSP presentation on IV Drug Use in Santa Cruz County, as well as recommendations for a coordinated syringe reporting system (per the Board’s direction). These items will be presented in February at the regular Board of Supervisor’s meeting. Board items typically need to be finalized a month prior to the presentation date.

Tuesday Jan 28th 6pm-7:30pm
The purpose of this meeting is to review outstanding items from December and provide programmatic updates. Review ongoing meeting cadence.

Tuesday February 2020 (TBD), BOS
Present Injection Drug-Use Study Session at the Board of Supervisors