

Indiana Department of Health Syringe Service Program DID YOU KNOW?



Syringe Service Programs:

- Do not encourage starting or continuing with injection drug use, and in fact, are effective at reducing injection drug use and assisting people in their recovery.¹
- Have been studied for 40 years and have been proven effective.²
- Are public health programs open to anyone in need of new injecting equipment including those with diabetes and other conditions requiring syringes.

Referrals

The top **3** most common referrals:

- Safer Use Education
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- HIV Testing

Availability

Indiana has **8 counties** approved to provide syringe services.

Return Rate

Syringes are returned at an average rate of **83%** statewide

Participation

There have been more than **22,900** registered participants in Indiana SSPs since 2015.

In the past year there have been over **8,200** active SSP participants.

Naloxone Access

Syringe Service Programs have provided more than **194,290** doses of naloxone to program participants since December 2019.

Opportunity

Representing more than **125,960** visits represent opportunities to access other services, including:

- HIV, STD, TB, and hepatitis B & C testing
- Referrals to substance abuse and mental health care, health care, housing, food, and other wrap-around services.
- Adult immunizations
- Wound care

¹ Hagan H, et al. Reduced injection frequency and increased entry and retention in drug treatment associated with needle-exchange participation in Seattle drug injectors. *J Subst Abuse Treat* 2000; 19(3):247-52.)

² "Several studies have found that providing sterilized equipment to injection drug users substantially reduces risk of HIV infection, increases the probability that they will initiate drug treatment, and does not increase drug use." (National HIV/AIDS Prevention Strategy for the United States, 2010)

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<https://www.in.gov/health/hiv-std-viral-hepatitis/harm-reduction-and-syringe-service-programs/>