

Indiana Department of Health Syringe Service Program

DID YOU KNOW?



Syringe Service Programs:

- Have been studied for 40 years and have been proven effective.¹
- 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.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:

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

Availability

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

Return Rate

Average syringe return rate of **82%** statewide

Participation

Over **19,000** people participate in SSPs in the state.

Naloxone Access

Syringe Service Programs have provided more than **130,000** doses of naloxone since December 2019.

Opportunity

Representing more than **95,100** visits/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 "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)

² 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.)