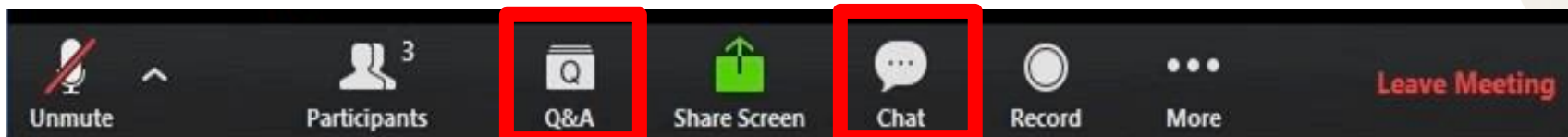


Enhancing Harm Reduction Services in Health Departments: Harm Reduction Vending Machines

Tuesday, September 19 | 1:30 - 3:00 pm ET

Housekeeping

- You will be muted automatically upon entry and for the duration of the webinar.
- This webinar is being recorded and will be archived for future viewing on the National Council's website.
- Please submit your questions using the Q&A box at the bottom of the screen.



This presentation was supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$248,980 with 100% funded by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, CDC/HHS or the U.S. Government.

Today's Presenters



Eliana Duncan, MSc
Consultant with the National Council
for Mental Wellbeing



Chelsi Cheatom
Program Manager
Trac-B Exchange



Shane Sullivan
Harm Reduction Coordinator
HIPS



Joe Trotter
Harm Reduction Program Coordinator
Champaign-Urbana Public Health District

Agenda

- Welcoming remarks from the CDC
- **Resource overview** – *Enhancing Harm Reduction Services in Health Departments: Harm Reduction Vending Machines*
- Panelist presentations
- Panelist discussion and Q&A
 - Discuss key planning and implementation considerations from *Enhancing Harm Reduction Services in Health Departments: Harm Reduction Vending Machines*.
 - Describe the strengths and limitations of implementing HRVMs.
 - Examine notable strategies for eliminating barriers to accessing HRVMs.

Welcoming Remarks from the CDC



Rebecca Glover-Kudon, PhD, MSPH
Behavioral Scientist
Division of Overdose Prevention
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

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Overview of Harm Reduction Vending Machines (HRVMs)

- HRVMs offer harm reduction supplies to people who use drugs, with minimal to no requirements for usage (“low-barrier”)
- May supplement existing programs, acting as alternative to fixed or mobile outreach
- Ability to attract populations who feel marginalized from traditional services, at higher risk for overdose
 - Greater privacy, anonymity
 - Limited or no human interaction
 - Extended or alternative hours

Considerations for HRVM Planning

- Oversight and collaboration (state, local, CBO level)
- Startup costs and funding sustainability
- Machine access
 - Location and hours of operation
 - Access cards and codes
- Supplies and services offered
 - Varies by location, client needs, resource availability
- Data collection
- Community engagement
- Paraphernalia laws, law enforcement interaction

Landscape in the United States

- Not widely implemented in US context
 - Supported by research and decades of experience in international contexts
- Increased interest in part due to COVID-19 related service disruptions, increasing overdose deaths
- Acceptability varies greatly throughout the US, depending on:
 - Relationships with health departments, local CBOs
 - Stigma and community buy-in
 - Role of media
 - Local and state laws

Chelsi Cheatom

Former Program Manager of Impact Exchange and
Trac-B Exchange

Impact Exchange

- Medium-sized harm reduction program
- ~ 19 employees
- Main office is in Las Vegas, NV
- SSP programs serve the entire state of Nevada through storefront, mailing, and vending machine programs. Impact Exchange/Trac-B is one of two SSP's in the state of Nevada
- Started as an SSP in 2017 and launched the first syringe vending program in the continental US in 2017

Vending Machine Details

- Machines are purchased from IDS Vending
- Less cost than brick-and-mortar location
- Includes data system that tracks use and inventory
- Requires clients to get a unique ID number
- Increased opportunities to access products
- Partnership with other agencies

Our Machines

- ❖ Substance Use Treatment Centers
- ❖ Community Centers
- ❖ Primary Care Clinics
- ❖ Outdoor location (rural)
- ❖ LGBTQIA+ Center
- ❖ Trac-B Storefront
- ❖ Private businesses
- ❖ County Detention Center
- ❖ Public Health Department



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Data

- JANUARY 2022 - DECEMBER 2022
- Total storefront SSP Syringes Out: 658,420
- JANUARY 2022 - DECEMBER 2022 Vending data
 - Vending Transactions: 8,608
 - Syringes: 170,070
 - Naloxone Doses: 1,455
 - Hormone Kits: 412
 - Condoms: 1,962
 - Hygiene Kits: 676
 - First Aid Kits: 962

Joe Trotter

Harm Reduction Coordinator
Champaign-Urbana Public Health District

About C-U Public Health

- Mid-size Public Health
 - ~120 employees
- Located in Champaign, IL
 - Home of the University of Illinois
 - Metropolitan area
 - Population 200k
- Started our Syringe Services program in 2009
 - Started syringe vending in 2020

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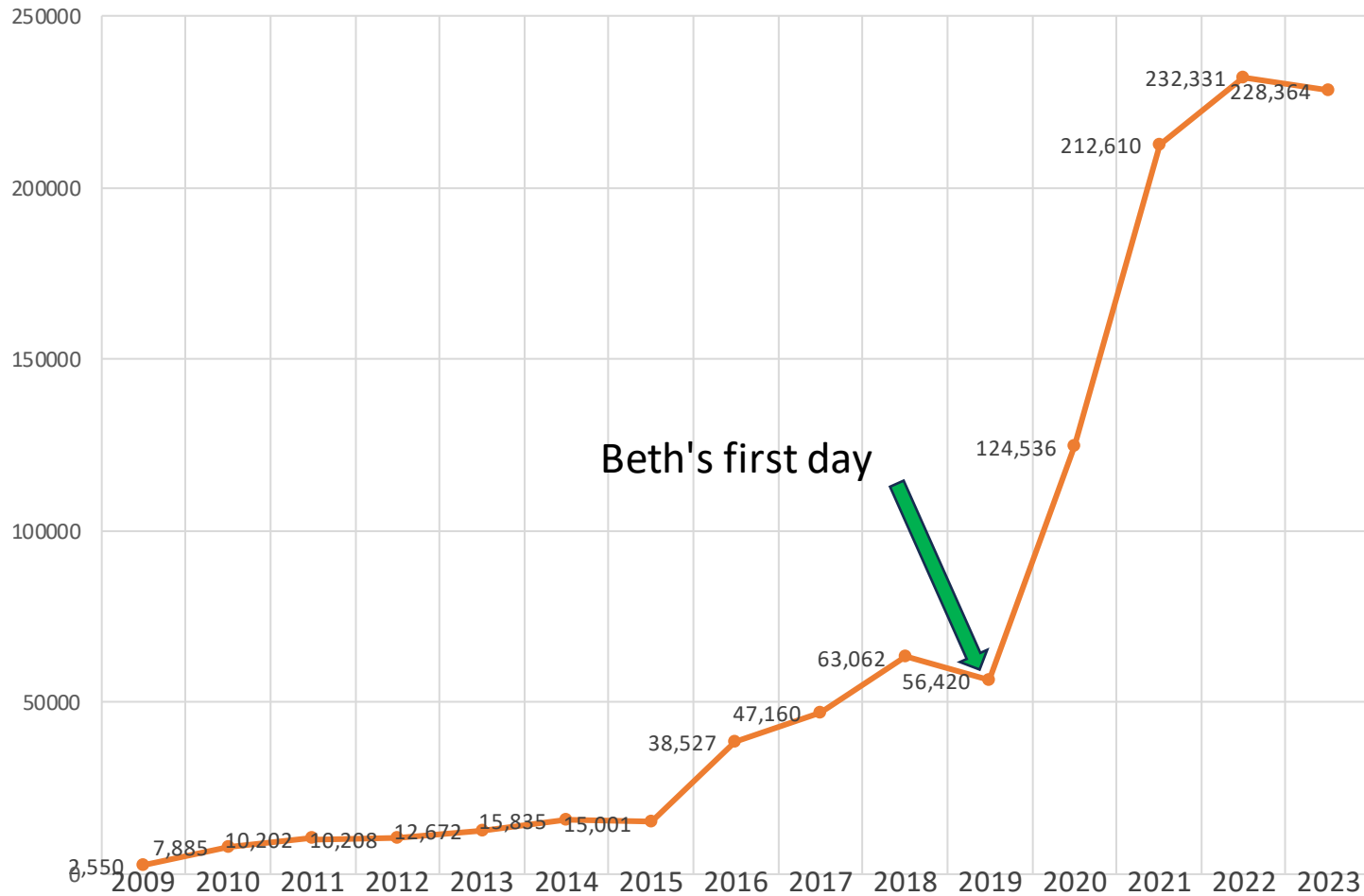
Our
Vending
Machine
"Beth"



Beth's Pros & Cons

- Small size, holds about 2,000 syringes
- Single code of entry
- No unique client-data
- Low cost (\$300)
- Low barrier

Syringe Data by Year



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Shane Sullivan

Harm Reduction Coordinator, HIPS



Honoring
Individual
Power &
Strength
HIPS

About HIPS

- Harm reduction organization founded in 1993 in Washington, DC initially as a street outreach program for sex workers
- Primary populations served include sex workers, people who use drugs, people who are unhoused, LGBTQ (especially trans) individuals, people engaged in street economies; 80-90% of participants are Black and a majority are low-income
- Approx. 36 staff, 5 peer educators, 50-70 active volunteers; majority of staff have lived experience and/or are from communities served
- 1 of 3 syringe service programs (SSPs) operating in DC (pop. approx. 650,000); also serves broader DMV region (Maryland/Virginia)



HIPS drop-in center at 906 H St. NE, Washington DC

About HIPS

HIPS departments:

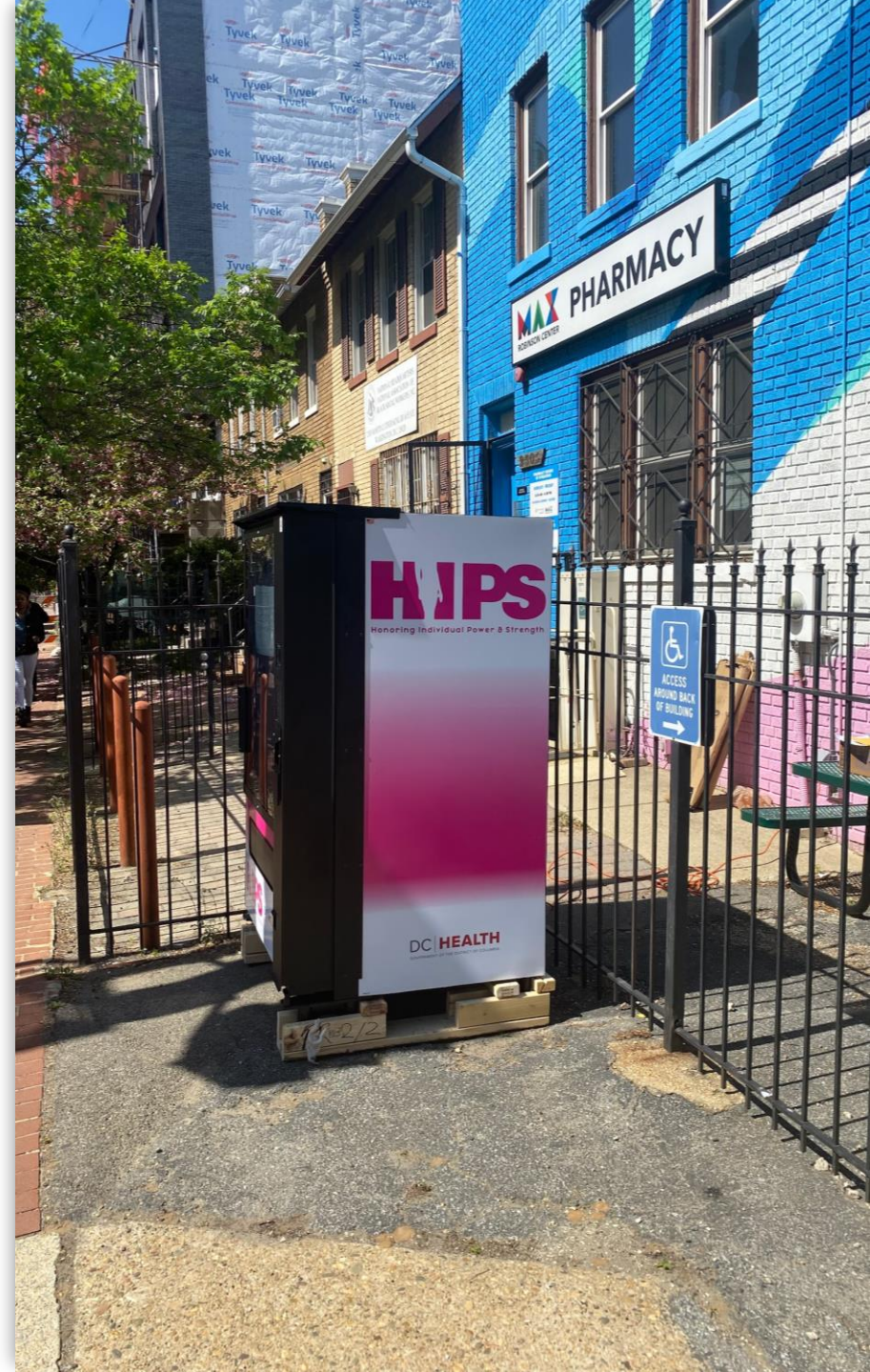
- Social services/drop-in
 - Clinical (MOUD and ID clinics)
 - Outreach
 - Advocacy
-
- Drop-in clothing closet, showers, laundry, peer support groups, food, housing case management, etc.
 - Suboxone treatment, infectious disease clinic (HCV treatment, wound care, etc.), PrEP, HIV/Hep C testing, harm reduction counseling/education
 - Syringe exchange/safer injection supplies, safer sex supplies, safer smoking kits, naloxone, fentanyl test strips, first aid/wound care supplies
 - 24/7 hotline; van outreach 7 days a week (including overnight to sex work strolls)
 - Community events/trainings (overdose prevention/naloxone administration, etc.)
 - Advocacy/educational events (co-lead of Sex Workers Advocates Coalition [SWAC] and #DecrimPovertyDC)



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Our Machines

- 3 machines at community org partner sites: Bread for the City (2 locations) and Whitman-Walker Health
- Submitted grant proposal to DC Health Dept. in Feb 2021; awarded in May; funding for project received in December 2021
- Machines ordered via Intelligent Dispensing Solutions (IDS) in May 2022; arrived January 2023; first machine active by end of May 2023
- Still in piloting stages; challenges across the board with hardware (security issues), software, inventory maintenance, etc.
- No card; one-time registration in-person or by phone, participants use unique 4 or 5-digit numeric code to access; 9999 is universal code for naloxone/fentanyl test strips



Our Machines

- Outdoors to be accessible 24/7
- Contain syringes, safer injection supplies, Narcan, fentanyl test strips, bottled water, chips, granola bars, HIV test kits, safer sex supplies, hygiene kits, wound care kits
- Plans to include handwarmers, thermal blankets, wool socks during cold weather
- Restricted from distributing safer smoking kits by HAHSTA (Health Dept. grantor)
- Sharps disposal bin adjacent to machines
- Not low-barrier; 2+ year project to get off the ground, continued logistical nightmares, time spent away from outreach etc.
- Machines cost \$11,595 each, or \$34,785 total; sharps disposal bins 2k+ each on top
- Some NIMBYism, but overall broad community support/excitement



 **HIPS**
@HIPSDC

Thanks for the free press! 🙏
We're proud to partner with @BreadfortheCity and @whitmanwalker to offer free naloxone, fentanyl testing strips, HIV test kits, safer sex and drug use supplies, bottled water, hygiene kits, & other lifesaving supplies at our 3 vending machine sites.

 **Hank Thomas** @HankThomas... · 8/30/23
Nothing says DC is going in the right direction more than a Narcan vending machine and a dirty needle drop box.



10:17 PM · 8/30/23 from Earth · **18.2K** Views

4 Bookmarks

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Panelist Discussion & Q&A

Please submit your questions using the Q&A box at the bottom of the screen.



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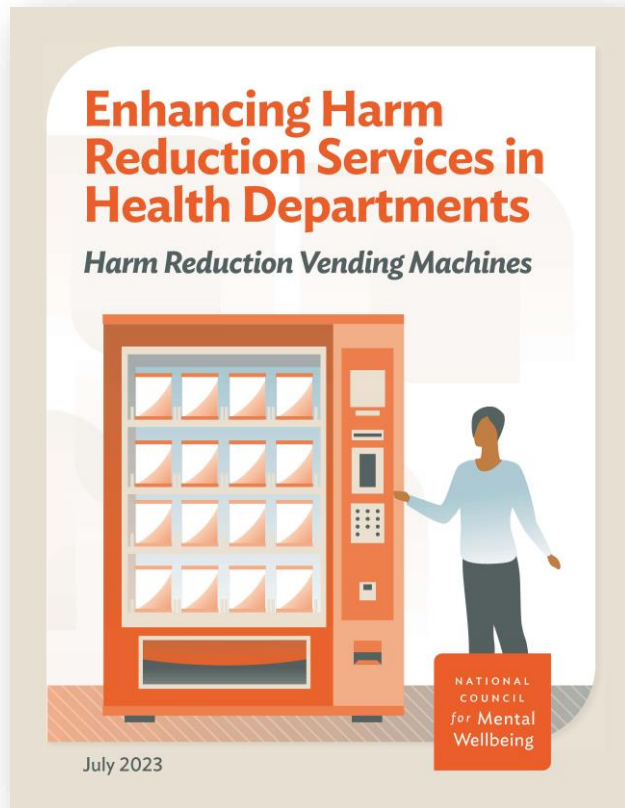


Joe Trotter
Harm Reduction Program Coordinator
Champaign-Urbana Public Health District

For more information, please check out our website:

<https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/program/tools-for-overdose-prevention/>

Enhancing Harm Reduction Services in Health Departments: Harm Reduction Vending Machines



- Overview of the current landscape of HRVMs in the U.S.
- Detailed considerations for health departments and community partners to use when planning and implementing HRVMS.
- Examples from the field.
- Additional tools and resources, including:
 - Comparison chart of no-to-low-barrier implementation of HRVMs.
 - Sample start-up budget.

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Additional Resources

- [Enhancing Harm Reduction Services in Health Departments: Fentanyl Test Strips and Other Drug Checking Equipment](#)
- [Establishing Peer Support Services for Overdose Response: A Toolkit for Health Departments](#)
- [Overdose Response and Linkage to Care: A Roadmap for Health Departments](#)

Thank You!

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<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/harmreductionvendingmachines>

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