



NC Department of Health and Human  
Services

# NC Opioid and Prescription Drug Abuse Advisory Committee (OPDAAC)

October 8, 2020

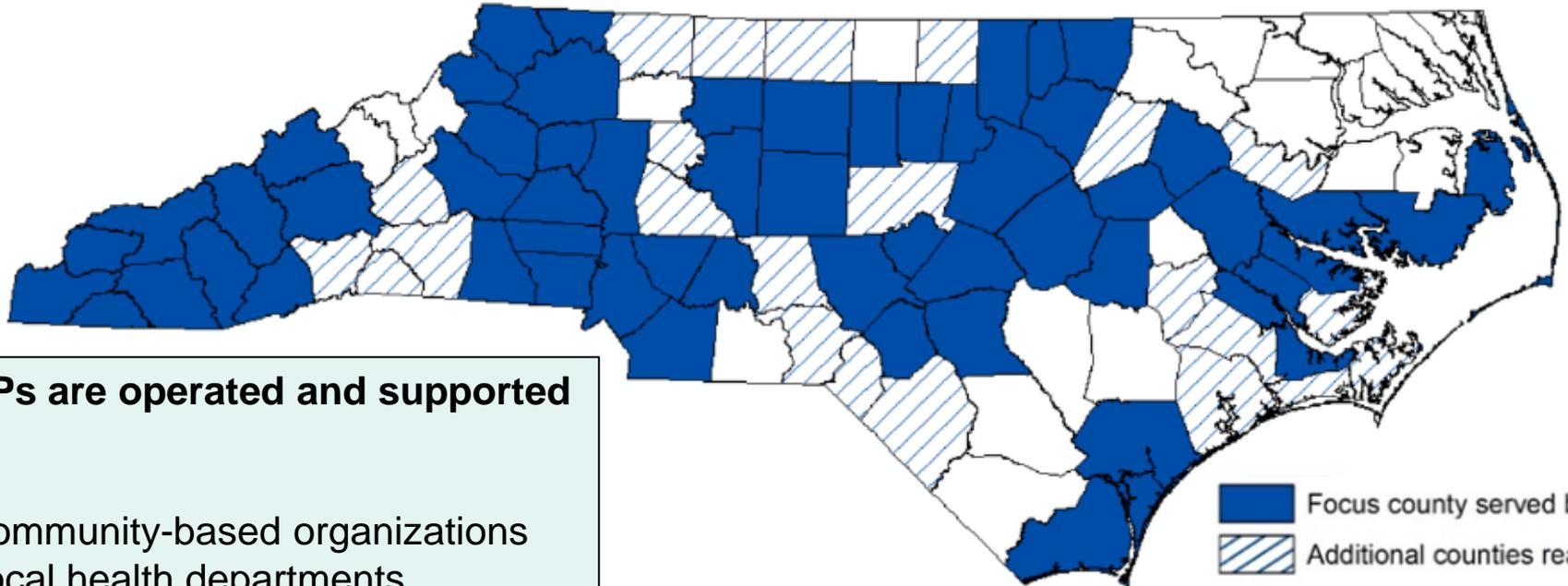
# Welcome to OPDAAC!

- We will start promptly at 10:00AM!
- For questions during the meeting:
  - Please put your questions in the chat box, which will be monitored for the duration of the meeting.
  - If you would like to ask a questions to a specific presenter, please be sure to include their name in your question.
- The meeting recording, agenda and PowerPoint slides will be added to our NC DHHS Opioids/OPDAAC page
  - <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/about/departments-initiatives/opioid-epidemic/nc-opioid-and-prescription-drug-abuse-advisory>
  - Please note, it can take up to 7 days for materials to be posted to the website. An email will be sent out to all attendees once materials have been posted.

# Overview of Syringe Services Programs (SSPs) in NC

*Alyssa Kitlas*

# NC Counties Served or Reached by Registered Syringe Services Programs, 2019-2020



## SSPs are operated and supported by:

- Community-based organizations
- Local health departments
- Faith-based organizations
- Health systems
- SUD treatment providers
- AIDS service organizations
- First responders
- Directly impacted people

For a full list of registered SSPs visit  
<https://tinyurl.com/NCSSList>

Counseling on treatment and prevention of HIV and Hepatitis B and C, such as antiretroviral therapy and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)

Referral to substance use treatment, medical care, mental health services, and other support services

Vaccines for diseases like Hepatitis A and B  
Testing for diseases like HIV and Hepatitis C

Access to and safe disposal of sterile syringes and injection equipment



**Syringe Services Programs are critical touch points within their communities.**

# Services Provided at SSPs

## Core Services

**Educational  
Materials**

**Syringe &  
Supply Access**

**Secure  
Disposal**

**Naloxone Kits and  
Referrals**

**Referrals to Mental Health and  
Substance Use Treatment (as needed)**

## Additional Support

**Safer Use  
Education**

**Support Groups  
and Advocacy**

**Referrals to Medical  
and Social Services**

**Overdose Prevention  
Education**

**Legal  
Services**

**Post-Overdose  
Response**

**Wound  
Care**

**MAT  
Access**

**Case  
Management**

**Hepatitis C  
Treatment**

**Food**

**HCV and HIV Testing  
and Linkage to Care**

**PrEP**

**Training and Professional  
Development**

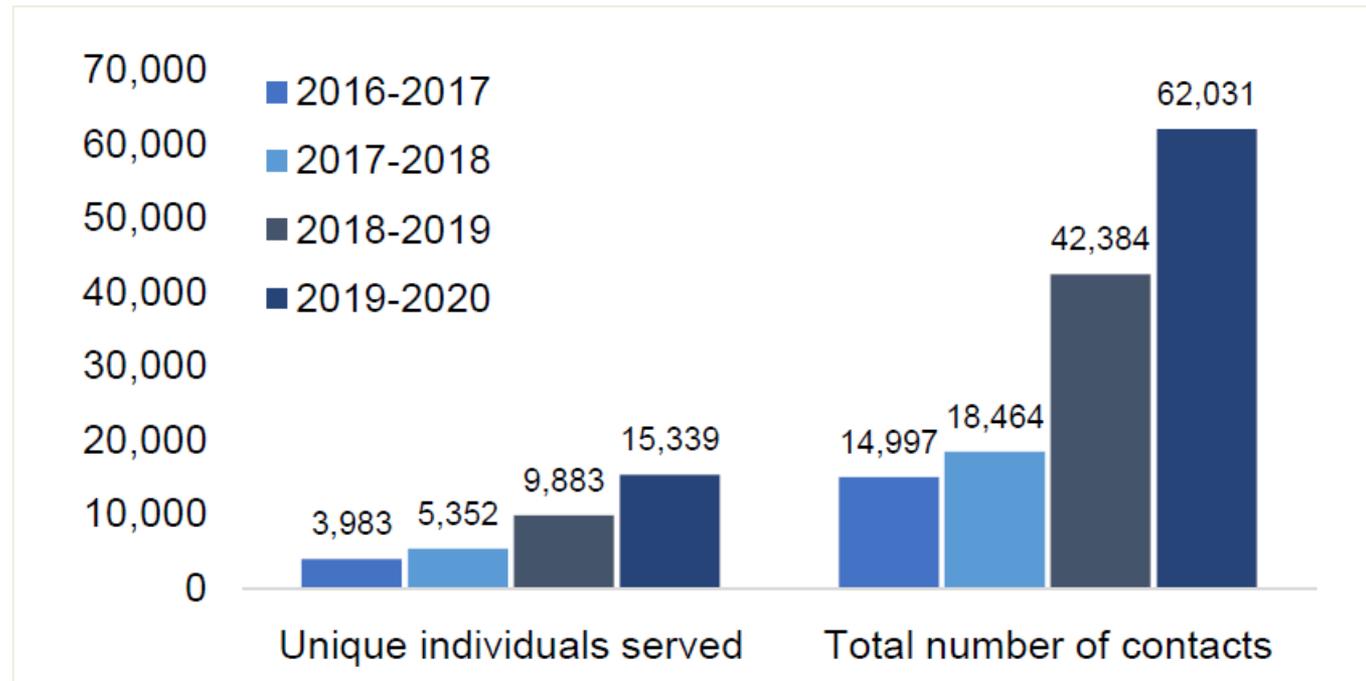
**Expanded  
Sexual Health**

# SSP Participants

Since 2018-2019:

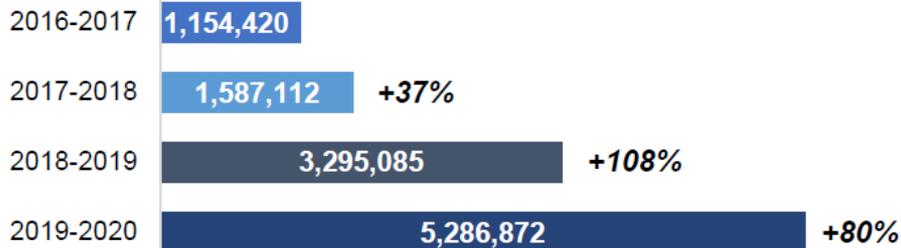
Total program contacts **increased by nearly 50%.**

The number of unique individuals served **increased by 55%.**

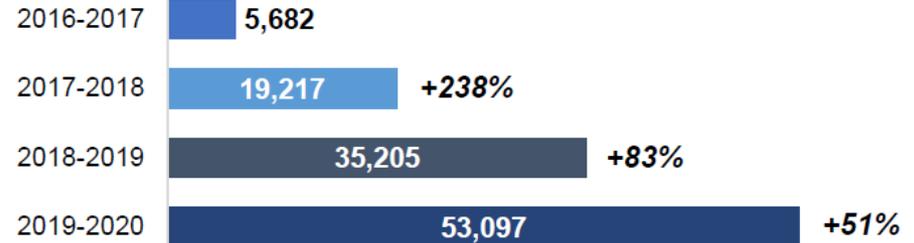


# Supply Distribution

## Syringes distributed



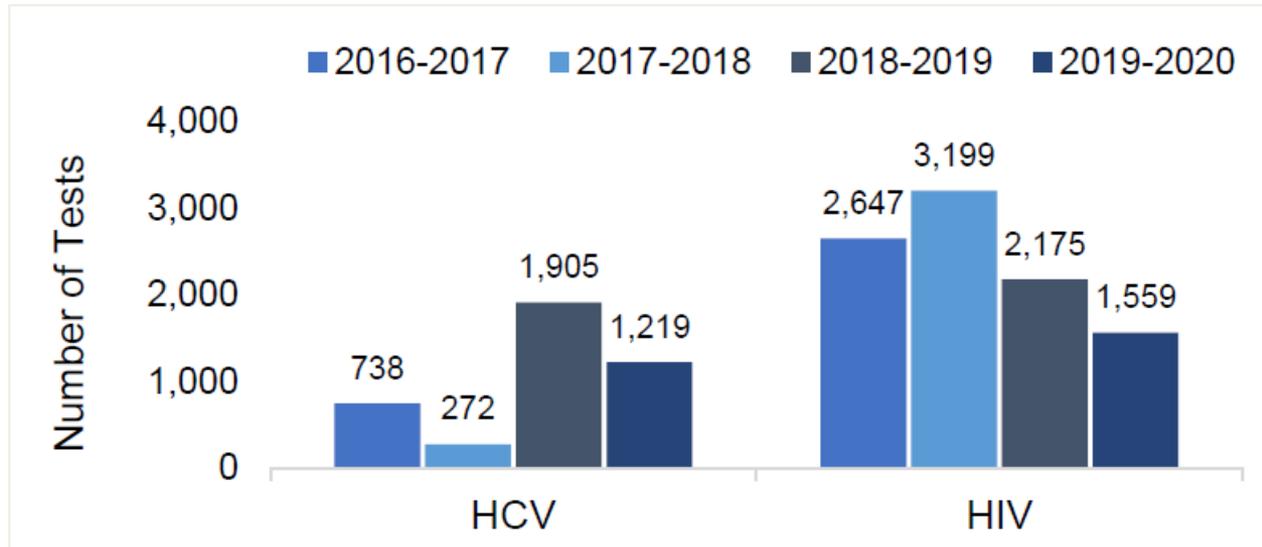
## Naloxone kits distributed



During 2019-2020, **5.3 million** sterile syringes and over **53,000** naloxone kits were distributed by SSPs.

Over **8,600** overdose reversals were reported back to SSPs in 2019-2020.

# Communicable Disease Testing



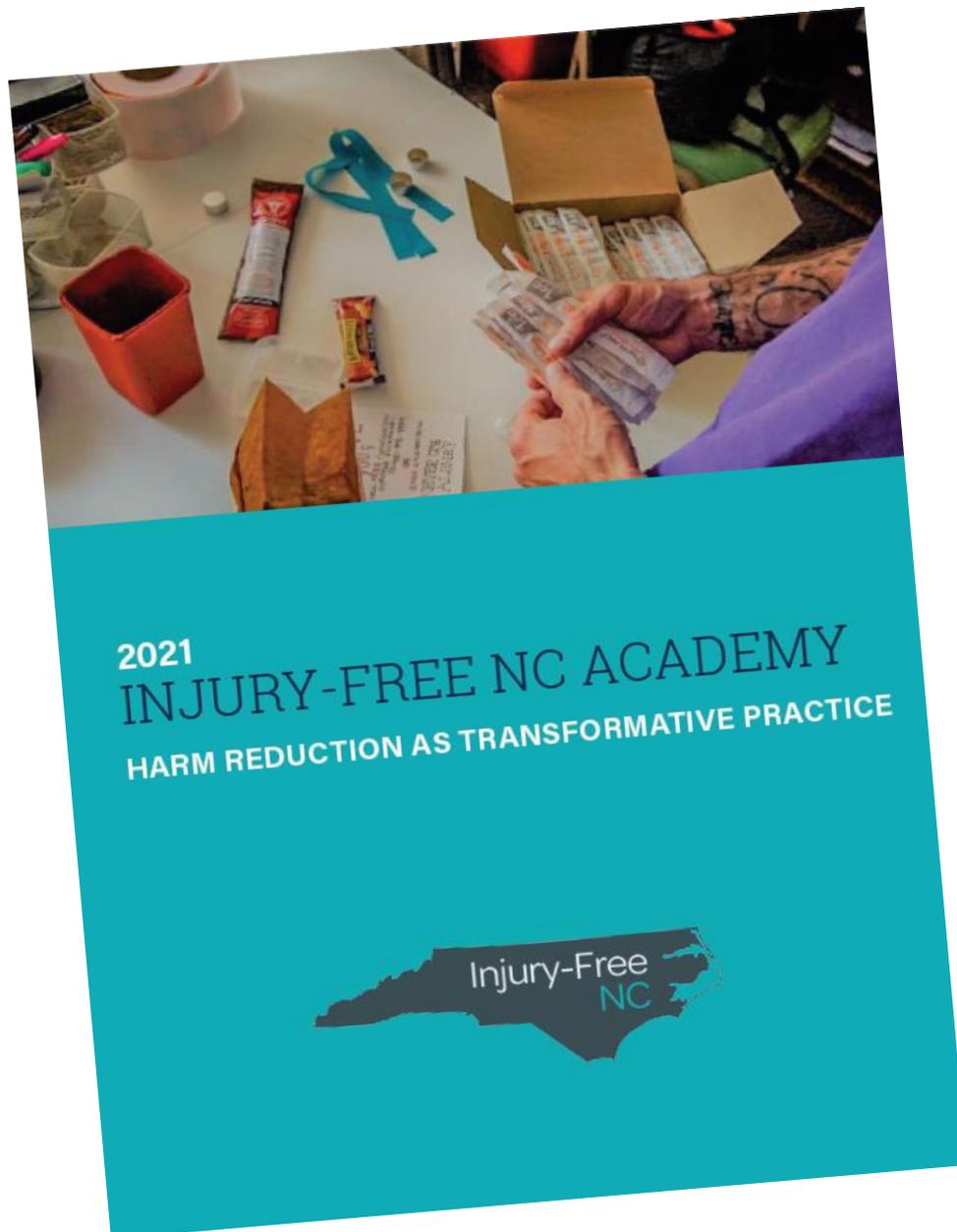
**61%** of all registered SSPs offer HIV and HCV testing to their program participants. This is an **increase of 120%** since the 2016-2017 reporting year.

# Summary



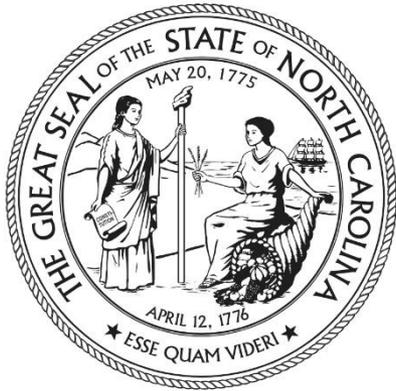
- *SSPs* are an evidence-based strategy to reduce overdose deaths, prevent blood-borne pathogens including HIV and hepatitis C (HCV), and connect people who use drugs to treatment and care.
- Programs continue to develop and grow in North Carolina since legalization in 2016.
- Access to sterile injection supplies and naloxone through *SSPs* has increased significantly over the past four years.
- *SSPs* are critical touchpoints for people who use drugs in NC and important partners in our work.

**SSPs save lives and keep communities healthy!**



## Announcing!

- First ever IFNC Academy on Harm Reduction
- Open to anyone interested in doing a deeper dive on harm reduction in practice
- 6-months of cohort meetings and broader training opportunities, all for free!
- Link to apply is in the chat



**Thank you!**

**[SyringeExchangeNC@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:SyringeExchangeNC@dhhs.nc.gov)**

# Innovations in NC SSPs

*Colin Miller*

# Innovations in NC SSPs

- Michelle Mathis, Olive Branch Ministry
- Lauren Kestner, Queen City Needle Exchange
- Jesse Bennett, North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition

***Please submit your questions in the chat box.***

# Advocacy by and on Behalf of People Who Use Drugs

*Anna Stein*

# Advocacy by and on Behalf of People Who Use Drugs

- Louise Vincent, NC Survivors Union
- Teri Gleason, Advocacy House

***Please submit your questions in the chat box.***

# Wrap up and THANK YOU!

**Alan Dellapenna**, Branch Head, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, Division of Public Health

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**Next Virtual OPDAAC Meeting: Friday, December 11, 2020**

*Theme: Justice-involved Populations*