County of Santa Cruz
Syringe Services Program (SSP)
Advisory Commission Program
Updates

June 14, 2022
Current Activities

Goals: Prevent disease, link to treatment and services, improve public safety

1) Watsonville hours
2) New Kiosk installation
3) Change to Monthly SSP Report
4) June 28th Board Memo
Watsonville Hours

- Watsonville hours expanding from 5 per week to 7 per week
- **Starting on Friday June 17th** we will have a 9am-11am shift
- Brings equity of service days to the Watsonville exchange
- Feedback from participants and potential participants during outreach contributed to our decision on the day and time of day to add hours
New Kiosk Installation

- Worked with the City of Watsonville to designate a location
- New Syringe Disposal Kiosk was installed 06/03/2022
- Watsonville Waste and Recycling Drop off Center located at 320 Harvest Dr., Watsonville, CA 95076
- Days and hours of access are Tuesday-Saturday from 9am-2:30pm
- Total of 7 Kiosks now installed (5 in Santa Cruz and 2 in Watsonville)
Starting in July 2022, SSP Reports will note that all participants are offered education on several topics:

1) Syringe Disposal
2) Overdose Prevention
3) Drug Treatment
4) HIV/Hep C testing and treatment
5) Harm Reduction
June 28th County BOS Meeting

Background:
On February 15, 2022, the Board directed HSA to return on or before June 28, 2022 “with a plan to address previous direction provided on June 8, 2021, to use our existing solid waste resources to come up with a systemic response to syringe collection, by either expanding contracts with current providers and/or releasing an RFP (Request for Proposal) or RFQ (Request for Quotation to solicit such services, including a potential on-demand response component.”
On June 28th, HAS plans to report back on the following

1) Review of County efforts to address syringe litter control
2) No RFP was released (not a specific board directive) However the County has expanded syringe litter control activities over the past year, including:
   • Leveraging existing solid waste resources
   • Kiosk expansion
   • Personal sharps container distribution
   • Large syringe disposal boxes
   • Centralized syringe litter reporting app (My Santa Cruz County)
   • Convenings with other jurisdictions
   • Outreach/education
3) HSA currently spends about 30% of the program budget on syringe litter activities but does not have a specific funding source for syringe collection. County DPW provides services only in the unincorporated areas, hence the importance of partnership with all jurisdictions
Questions?

Thank You