

Tobacco Settlement Revenue
Oversight Committee

HIV, STD and Hepatitis Section
Activities

Presenter: Dominick V. Zurlo, Ph.D.

Program Contacts:

Andrew Gans, MPH - HIV, STD, and Hepatitis Section Manager

Andrew.Gans@state.nm.us

Joshua Swatek – Hepatitis and Harm Reduction Program Manager

Joshua.Swatek@state.nm.us

August 26, 2019

Harm Reduction and Hepatitis Program Support from Tobacco Settlement

	State fiscal year (SFY) 2018	SFY 2019	Request for SFY 2020
Hepatitis Program	\$43,400	\$43,400	\$43,400
Harm Reduction Program	\$249,600	\$249,600	\$249,600
Total	\$293,000	\$293,000	\$293,000

Hepatitis Program Select Accomplishments

- ❖ Public Health Offices (PHO) and contractual providers delivered the following services.
 - Over 4,600 laboratory tests for hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV) were conducted in SF17.
 - Distributed over 4,100 doses of vaccines for hepatitis A and B in SFY16.
 - Innovative Under-30-Surveillance Project 2013-2019:
 - This program helped to identify existing gaps in services and treatment options for hepatitis C and was essential in helping to provide more accurate data for hepatitis C response plans.

Harm Reduction Program Accomplishments - Overview

- ❖ Statewide Syringe Services Program (SSP) activities are a fundamental and effective means of preventing the spread of HIV and hepatitis C virus (HCV).
 - Integrated approach for HIV and rapid HCV testing, including in correctional facilities, harm reduction outreaches, and community settings.
 - HCV rapid testing has been integrated into the HIV counseling, testing and referral services (CTRS) curriculum.
 - The SSP provides an access point for at-risk clients to navigation services into Hepatitis C treatment.

- ❖ The SSP provides access to at-risk clients for delivery of overdose prevention education and distribution of Naloxone (Narcan) for opiate overdoses.

Harm Reduction Program Accomplishments – Syringe Services

- ❖ Collects syringes from any individual who uses syringes, including both participants in the program and other New Mexicans.
 - ❖ This includes syringes collected during in-person syringe service sessions, Public Health Offices, Contracted Community Partners, and syringes collected through community collection “dropboxes”
 - ❖ By removing used syringes from circulation, public safety is increased
- ❖ The number of participants served is growing quickly.
 - ❖ Just over 6,000 participants in SFY 2013
 - ❖ Over 12,000 participants with over 45,000 sessions in SFY 2019
- ❖ Between 84% and 86% of participants reported not sharing syringes.

Harm Reduction Program Accomplishments – Treatment Referrals and Overdose Prevention

- ❖ Each year, more than 2/3 of SSP participants (68 – 71%) make one or more attempts to get into other substance use treatment programs. Of these attempts, roughly 1/3 experience barriers or challenges in receiving treatment.
- ❖ The overdose prevention program is growing rapidly. In FY 2019 naloxone was distributed during approximately 11,000 overdose prevention educational sessions, more than six times the approximately 1,700 sessions with naloxone distribution in 2012.
- ❖ There were over 3,400 opioid overdose reversals reported to the program in FY19, more than four times the 810 reported in 2016, where the person was “OK” afterwards.