

Syringe Services Programs: Vital Part of Efforts to Combat Opioid, HIV, and Hepatitis Epidemics

What is an SSP? A community-based program that provides key pathway to services to prevent drug use, HIV, and viral hepatitis



Free sterile needles and syringes



Safe disposal of needles and syringes



Referral to mental health services



Overdose treatment and education



Hepatitis A and B vaccination



Other tools to prevent HIV and hepatitis, including counseling, condoms, and PrEP (a medicine to prevent HIV)



Referral to substance use disorder treatment, including medication-assisted treatment



HIV and hepatitis testing and linkage to treatment



SSPs DON'T increase illegal drug use or crime but **DO** reduce HIV hepatitis risk.

Syringe services programs: <http://bit.ly/2dhkAsq> Find an SSP: <http://bit.ly/2dhktgB>

**HIV diagnoses are down among PWID.
More access to SSPs could help reduce HIV and hepatitis further.**

PWID - People who inject drugs

SOURCE: Vital Signs, December 2016