



# Louisville Metro Syringe Exchange Program

The growing movement of understanding the epidemic

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# LMPHW

## Syringe Exchange Program

- Started in a Mobile Unit outside of the Health Department
- Open 6 Days a week
- Open for 23 hours a week
- Staffed with 2 people
  - 1 Tester
  - 1 Exchanger

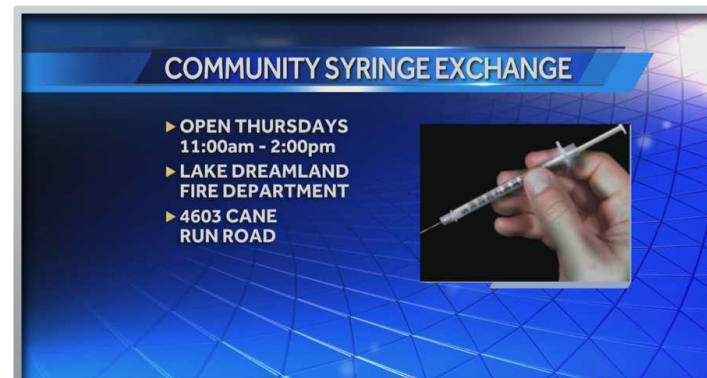
- Currently we are located inside of the Health Department
- Staffed with 2-3 people

- With COVID 19 concerns we have had to adjust the way we provide services instead of decreasing services



# Moving beyond just the Health Department Location

- Our partnership with volunteers of America has made it possible to have 6 community sites with the plans of opening at least 1 more.
- Outreach locations operate 18 hours in the community Monday- Saturday
- July 1<sup>st</sup> LMPHW partnership with UK to Provide services in the community and take over the community sites as well as provide more education in the community.
  - A more in-depth Jail education for inmates on HR, SEP, DOPE, & HIV HEP C
  - Drug court education as well as working with other at high communities



**1 MAIN LOCATION:**  
Inside the Department of Public Health and Wellness, 400 E. Gray Street  
Hours: Monday & Friday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Tuesday & Wednesday 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Thursday 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Saturday 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Sunday CLOSED

**2 COMMUNITY SITES:**  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
3640 River Park Drive (37th and River Park)  
Hours: Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**3** 1455 Bicknell Ave.  
(Corner of Bicknell and Taylor)  
Hours: Every Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**4** 4603 Cane Run Rd.  
(Behind the Lake Dreamland Fire Station)  
Hours: Every Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**5** 2215 Portland Ave.  
(In the parking lot of the Family Health Center)  
Hours: Every Friday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**LOUISVILLE METRO SYRINGE EXCHANGE SITES**



# Pre COVID19



# COVID 19





- From June 2015- April 30,2020 over 21,000 participants have been seen.
- Those participants account for over 127,004 visits to our sites

## Our Rates w/ Hybrid Model

- Number of Syringes given 2019 2,487,655
- Number of Syringes returned 2019 3,776,583
  - 65% return rate
- Number of Syringes given 2020 6,082,788
- Number of Syringes returned 2020 4,104,4000
  - 67% return rate since the 2015

Where are the other 35%?

<b>SYRINGES</b>	
MARCH	
<b>GIVEN OUT</b>	155,902
<b>RETURNED</b>	112,659
<b>THAT'S</b>	72%





# How has COVID 19 affected our services

## Pre COVID19

March 1-May 31st

- Number of Participants – 3,296
- Number of Syringes Provided – 494,633
- Number of Syringes Returned – 363,802
- Return Rate 73%

## Post COVID19

March 1- May 31<sup>st</sup>

- Number of Participants- 3,169
- Number of syringes Provided – 714,148
- Number of Syringes Collected – 431,304
- Return rate 60%

# WHAT IS HARM REDUCTION?

Harm reduction is a non-judgmental, non-coercive approach to reducing harms of drug and alcohol use.

Risk and rights education



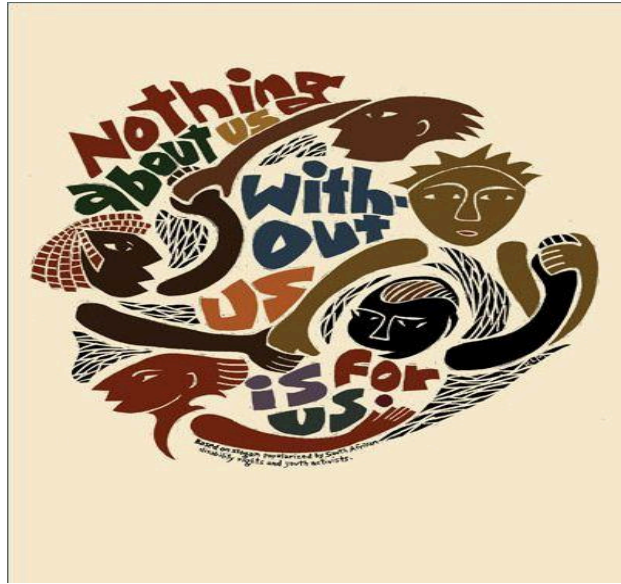
Needle exchanges and safe injection sites



Peer and community support



- Incremental changes rather than expecting "cold turkey" abstinence which may cause withdrawals
- Respectful and compassionate, harm reduction practitioners work to destigmatize drug users
- Protects the rights of drug users



*I have value. I am worthy.  
I have dignity.*



dignity+respect  
= Inclusion



# Not Just about Syringes



- Education

- Participants & Family

- HIV/Hep C
    - Endocarditis
    - Safer injection
    - Overdose prevention
    - Treatment options

- Academic & Medical Community

- Community Based Organizations

- Services

- Counseling
  - HEP A/B Vaccines
  - HIV/HEP C testing
  - Linkage to Care



One on one engagement





ENTER  
treatment

SHIFT  
focus

CONTROL  
addiction

VISIT

findhelpnowky.org

**IN LESS THAN A MINUTE**

Get a list of every Kentucky-based addiction  
treatment provider accepting clients right now.

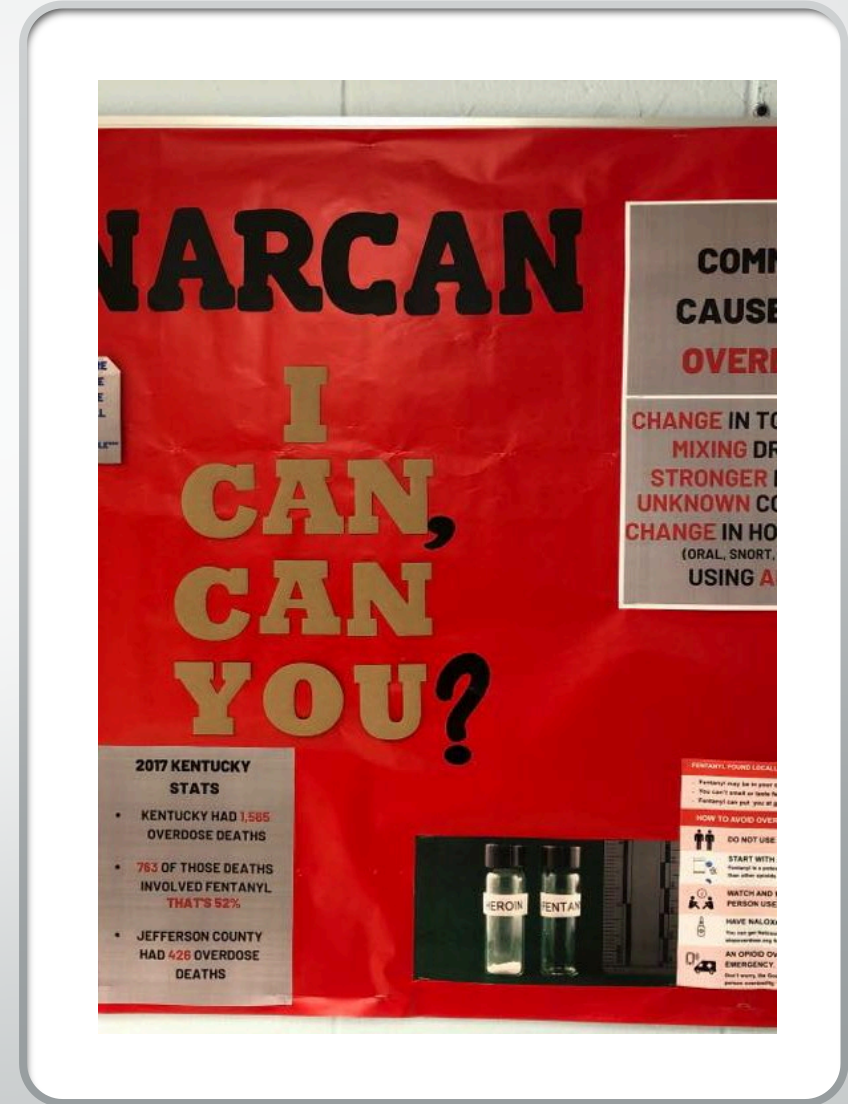
Text HOPE to 96714 | Call 1-833-8KY-HELP

**NOT AN**



# Overdose Prevention

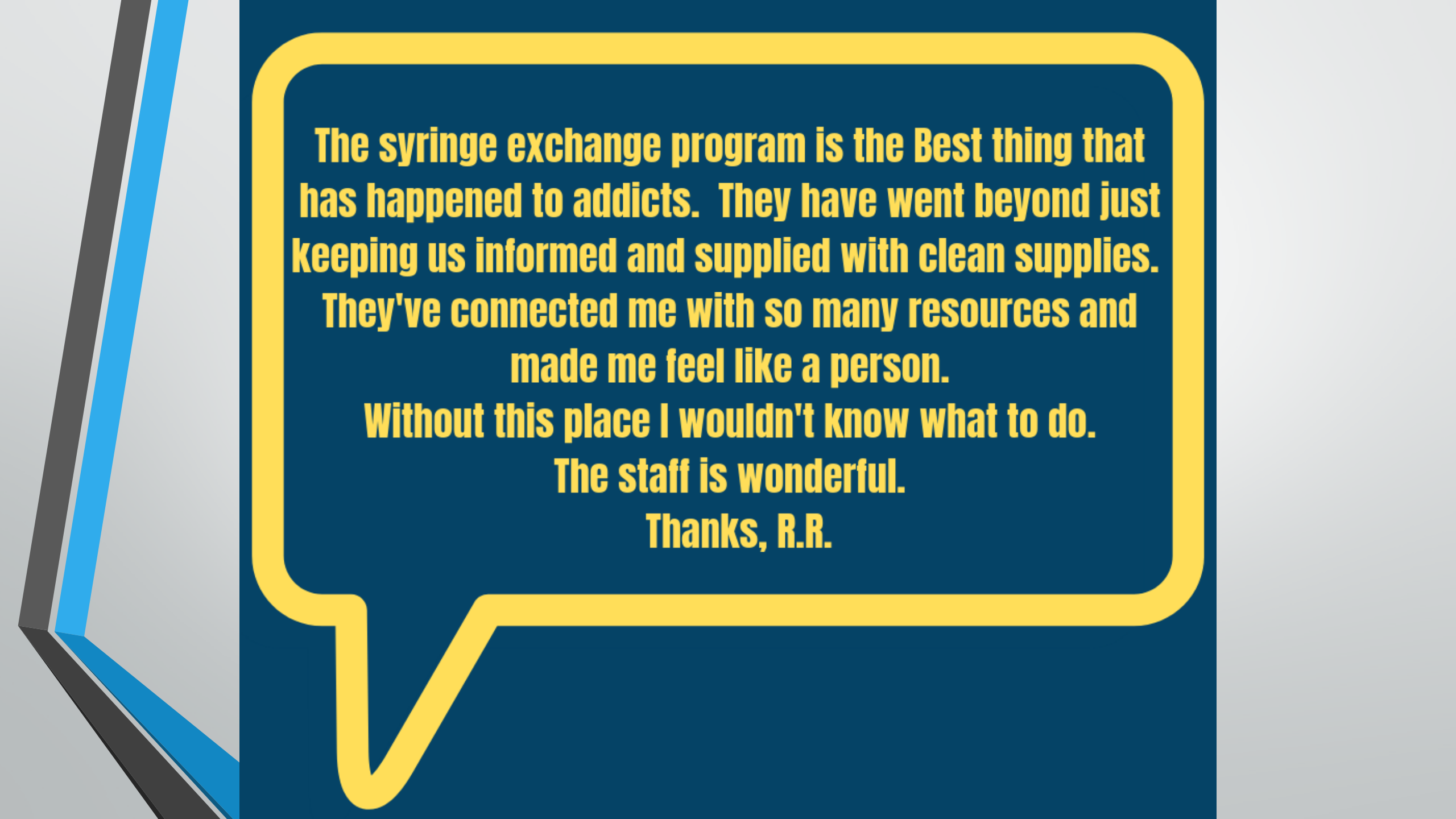
- Initial partnerships w/ KYHRC & U of L Outpatient Pharmacy
- Transitioned to dispensing at 400 E Gray site
  - Since dispensing by staff almost 2000 overdose reversals have been reported by almost 900 participants
- Fentanyl Test strips





# BETTER TOGETHER

- LMPD
- KY-HRC
- University of U of L hospital
- U of L Hep C clinic
- U of L Pharmacy
- Family Health Centers
- Local Forestations
- Community Churches
  - Redeemer Lutheran
  - Beulah Presbyterian church



**The syringe exchange program is the Best thing that has happened to addicts. They have went beyond just keeping us informed and supplied with clean supplies. They've connected me with so many resources and made me feel like a person. Without this place I wouldn't know what to do. The staff is wonderful. Thanks, R.R.**



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**THE EXCHANGE IS AN  
AMAZING RESOURCE THAT  
HAS SURELY KEPT ME  
DISEASE FREE! I LITERALLY  
LOVE EVERYONE HERE,  
EVERYONE TREATS US  
WITH RESPECT AND THEY  
DEARLY UNDERSTAND AND  
GENUINELY CARE.  
THANK YOU GUYS!**

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