Comprehensive Harm Reduction & Syringe Exchange Program
The LENOWISCO Health District (LHD) is located in the heart of the beautiful Appalachian mountains of southwest Virginia, extending east from the Cumberland Gap, and bordering Kentucky and Tennessee. Much of our district is closer to at least seven other state capitals than to Virginia’s own capital, Richmond. LHD serves three counties Lee, Wise and Scott, and the independent City of Norton. LHD serves a population of approximately 92,000.
Outreach & Community Engagement

- Partnership with National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Develop community-level emergency response plan for outbreak of hepatitis and/or HIV.
- “Town Hall Meetings” to engage community members
- Build knowledge among local government leaders, law enforcement, mental health, recovery community, health department, and regional coalition members.
- Tour of syringe exchange program - Charleston, WV
Outreach & Community Engagement

- Engage regional coalition to build support and advocate for comprehensive harm reduction programming.
  - Appalachian Substance Abuse Coalition for Prevention, Treatment & Recovery (ASAC)
    - Serves 13 Counties & 3 Cities in Southwest Virginia
  - Community education and support on pros and cons of syringe exchange programs by using theater and Appalachian tradition of storytelling to humanize the issue.
    - Play “Needle Work”
- Partnership with National Harm Reduction Coalition
- Harm Reduction Navigator Training
CHR Program Timeline

- March - Program Application Submitted
- April - Site Visit from DDP
- May - Commissioner Authorization Letter
- June - MOA Signed
- July 2, 2018 - First Day of CHR Program
LENOWISCO CHR Program Overview

• 1 for 1 Exchange
• Supplies Offered:
  • Needles/Syringes
  • Sharps Containers
  • Alcohol Pads
  • Sterile Water/Saline
  • Band-Aids/Gauze
  • Antibiotic Ointment
  • Condoms
  • Safe Injection Kit
    • Bleach, Clean Water, & 3 Cups
LENOWISCO CHR Program Overview

- Unique Participants: 24
- Total Visits: 47
- Authorized Program Staff: 7
- Volunteers: 4
- Syringes Dispensed: 847
- Syringes Returned/Collected: 2,108
- Syringe Return Rate: 249%
- Average Injections Per Day: 4
REDCap Database

Demographic Information
- Age, Zip Code, Drug of Preference, Sexual Orientation, Employment Status, Homelessness, etc.

Status & Testing Information
- REVIVE Training/Narcan Dispensing Date, Hepatitis A/B Vaccination Status, Hepatitis C Status & Testing Date, HIV Status & Testing Date

Encounter Information
- Syringes Returned, Supplies Given, Zip Code of Current Residence, # of Injections Per Day, Verified Accepted Wrap Around Services (testing, treatment, mental health, recovery, social services, family planning, etc.)
LENOWISCO CHR Program Overview

- **Demographics**

  **Gender**
  - Female: 71%
  - Male: 29%

  **Race/Ethnicity**
  - White: 85%
  - Native American: 5%
  - Asian: 5%
  - Hispanic: 5%
LENOWISCO CHR Program Overview

- Demographics

Locality

- 24230: 50%
- 24293: 23%
- 24279: 25%
- 24277: 2%
LENOWISCO CHR Program Overview

- **Demographics**

  **Own/Rent/Homeless**
  - Own: 57%
  - Rent: 24%
  - Homeless: 19%

  **Employment Status**
  - Employed: 24%
  - Unemployed: 76%
LENOWISCO CHR Program Overview

- **Drug Use Behavior**

**Drug of Choice**
- Rx Opioids: 73%
- Meth: 18%
- Heroin: 6%
- Other: 3%

**Method of Use**
- Injection: 64%
- Oral: 18%
- Snort: 18%

VDH Virginia Department of Health
To protect the health and promote the well-being of all people in Virginia.
LENOWISCO CHR Program Overview

- REVIVE! & Naloxone (Narcan®)

**REVIVE! Trained**

- Yes: 71%
- No: 29%
LENOWISCO CHR Program Overview

Statistics

Hepatitis C Status

- Positive: 33%
- Negative: 38%
- Untested: 29%

HIV Status

- Positive: 0%
- Negative: 81%
- Untested: 19%