

SURG Member Harm Reduction Recommendation Submissions

Bad Batch App

1. Bad batch application for people who use drugs (PWUDs) and people who work in harm reduction to enter data (positive tests, overdoses) and receive bad batch push notifications.

Quantitative Drug Checking for People Who Use Drugs

2. Quantitative drug checking services for people who use drugs (PWUDs).
3. Expand opportunities for drug-checking for syringe services programs and other programs that serve individuals who use drugs.

Harm Reduction Supply Shipping Efforts

4. Provide for the expansion of Harm Reduction services in every county including supporting shipping from urban Harm Reduction programs to rural/ frontier areas

Post Overdose Outreach

5. Funding is requested for a SNHD position to work with the HIDTA Overdose Response Team. The goal is to have a full-time position (SME) that would respond to overdose calls. Once the scene has been cleared by law enforcement, this health department subject matter expert would work with the victim, their family members, other persons on scene etc. to provide linkage to care services and harm reduction programs such as naloxone, fentanyl test strips and needle exchange programs. Other services needed could be funeral related, housing needs, health care, counseling or a warm handoff to treatment for substance use disorder. This position would also offer a continuum of care, providing follow up and case management as needed. The SNHD is currently working with the CFC Foundation, The National HIDTA Overdose Response Strategy (ORS), Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Henderson Police Dept, Homeland Security Investigations and the Nevada Sheriff's and Chief's Association to bring harm reduction training to the law enforcement community as well as pilot the above program in an effort to combat the harmful effects of fentanyl related deaths in our communities.

Alternative Pain Treatment

6. Alternative pain treatment

Safe Smoking

7. Expand the scope of materials that may be made available for public health purposes by syringe services programs (SSPS), such as access to safer smoking supplies

Role of Community Health Workers and Harm Reduction

8. Provide support to community coalitions to support community health workers to expand Harm Reduction throughout the state of Nevada

SURG April 5, 2023 Presenter Harm Reduction Recommendations

Bad Batch App

9. Support for app maintenance/administration (e.g., person to review data and push notifications to end users)
10. Support for expansion of services across Nevada (5 behavioral health regions?)
11. Support to deploy public health and harm reduction resources into potential spike areas
12. Integration with quantitative drug checking services to alert end users of potentially lethal batches

Quantitative Drug Checking for People Who Use Drugs

13. Work with existing harm reduction organizations to implement a drug checking program
14. Have them discuss with their participants if they think this would be a useful service to them
15. Identify municipalities with governments and police departments that would be most likely to create agreements allowing for drug checking
16. Connect with people in the harm reduction community who are involved with drug checking who can provide guidance and training

Drug Checking for PWUDs in Nevada/ Surveillance of the Illicit Drug Supply

17. Widespread, routine, and reportable testing of emergency department patients for commonly used substances and adulterants for public health surveillance
18. State and/or regional labs with capacity to test substances with high throughput and sensitivity
19. Accessible sites for community members to submit substances and/or samples for rapid testing and reporting

Harm Reduction Supply Shipping Efforts

20. Travel costs for pickup of used products to be returned for destruction. The most ideal solution would include 2 cities for returns to end at: Reno and Las Vegas.
21. Education about Naloxone – particularly intramuscular.
22. Advertising about shipping programs.
23. Additional funds for purchasing Naloxone in the future.

Post Overdose Outreach

24. Allocation of opioid settlement funds to be used to fund a Post Overdose Outreach Coordinator, and other associated costs to starting and maintaining the program

Alternative Pain Treatment

25. Provide Early Access to patients who would otherwise be prescribed opioids if treated in an emergency room setting
26. Eliminate the need for prior authorization either through legislation or persuade insurance carriers to sanction opioid alternative treatments
27. Expand this strategic initiative to other areas of the state who are faced with the same opioid addiction issues

Role of Community Health Workers and Harm Reduction

28. Prioritize funding for Community Health Workers to provide community-based harm reduction services.