

Indigent Care Levy Programming @ Hamilton County Public Health

Oral Health Coalition
Tuberculosis Prevention and Control
Stigma-Free Access For Everyone (Syringe Services)

Greg Kesterman, Health Commissioner

Tuberculosis Prevention and Control

- Total number of cases seen during current levy period (through Feb. 2022) is 592. Approximately 1000 to 1400 skin tests are performed annually
- TB case numbers were much higher in 2021 than in 2020. Expect this may have to do with people delaying treatment during the pandemic
- Program currently seeing supply chain issues including dramatic price increases and supply shortages
- Aided in management of multiple complex cases, including multi-drug resistant and non-compliant cases

2023-2028 planning

- Resume pre-pandemic efforts to do in-person Direct Observation Therapy (DOT) rather than by video. This will assist with medication compliance by building rapport at the beginning of treatment and building habits around treatment medications.
- Continue working to apply for grants that will enhance our outreach efforts and allow HCPH to engage those with latent TB infections. Program will engage people in the Cincinnati Latinx community, utilizing culturally-informed strategies.
- Initial efforts have been funded and we will continue to grow this program alongside our partners.

Stigma-Free Access For Everyone (Syringe Services)

SAFE Services formerly the SSP (syringe services program.) HCPH Harm Reduction services has created greater access to services and supplies within Hamilton County over the past 5 years.

- 5 mobile S.A.F.E. Service sites within Hamilton County
- 2 sites are evening sites
- Mobile S.A.F.E. Services operates 5 days a week
- Hamilton County Overdose death rates have remained steady – correlation to greater access from many community partners to life saving naloxone including our mobile services
- 3 of our 4 Harm Reduction Specialists with SAFE Services have State Certification as Peer Supporters; are better equipped and trained to provide links to care

Hamilton County Public Health Harm Reduction Services

- Opportunities to provide more access to services and supplies to those at risk
- Greater outreach to minority populations and younger at risk recreational or experimental drug use
- Maintaining and growing our strong community partnerships to ensure treatment and recovery support services are accessible – currently working with 46 agencies in our community
- Strengthening our public health and public safety partnerships

Oral Health Coalition

- Created in 2017 with goal of eliminating oral health disparities and increase access to oral health

KEY INITIATIVES

1. Oral Health Literacy Campaign in Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS)
2. Kyle Willis Oral Care Campaign to reduce oral health-related emergency room visits
3. Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers (FQHC) partnerships to better integrate oral care for vulnerable children

Oral Health Coalition

2023 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

One to One Program

- OHC intends to visit the more than 600 dentists in Hamilton County to provide education that will help encourage acceptance of Medicaid and Medicare at each practice.
- This program is expected to cost approximately \$20,000 in year one and \$10,000 each subsequent year to maintain presence and provide updated training

Dollars for Dentures

- The program will approach multiple Dental Laboratories seeking a percentage fee reduction for the costs of flippers and Dentures.
- OHC will directly pay for some or all of the reduced laboratory costs for safety net organization fabricating flippers and dentures for indigent patients, as these are often inaccessible for this population.
- The coalition will be implementing D4D in 2022 with the intent on growing the program in subsequent years.

Thanks!