

Harm Reduction: A Labor of Love

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19 MEXICANS SLAIN; DRUG FEUD IS BLAMED

By Ricardo Sandoval and Knight Ridder/Tribune
Chicago Tribune
Published: Sep 18, 1998 at 12:00 am



MEXICO CITY — At least 19 men, women and children were slain Thursday near the resort town of Ensenada, 60 miles south of San Diego, in what police say could be a

ADVERTISEMENT



American colonists at La Logia, Sinaloa, November 17, 1889.



My Personal "Why This is Important to Me" Mi Familia

WHAT IS HARM REDUCTION?

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- Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use. Harm Reduction is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in, and respect for, the rights of people who use drugs.

-National Harm Reduction Coalition

- Harm reduction can be applied to any behaviors that have an impact on individual and community risk.

CORE PRINCIPLES

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- WHOLE-PERSON CARE
 - ACCESSIBILITY
 - PARTICIPANT SELF-DETERMINATION
 - PARTICIPANT INVOLVEMENT
 - COMMITMENT TO EVIDENCE
 - SOCIAL JUSTICE
 - PRACTICAL AND REALISTIC

The Harm Reduction Coalition of San Diego (HRCSD ON POINT) is a grassroots organization led by the people with the mission of educating, supporting, empowering, and networking to spread the awareness of the importance of harm reduction and to reduce stigma. We aim to provide harm-reduction services ranging from syringe exchange, prevention education, drug poisoning risk prevention and community referrals. Furthermore, our harm reduction coalition is composed of members including health care providers, mental health clinicians, activists, students, members of the community at large and most importantly- consumers of harm reduction services. HRCSD ON POINT aims to be an inclusive organization that welcomes diverse views, opinions, cultures, and backgrounds.

Fostering relationships with community partners on both sides of the border has been crucial in building effective programs in both the US and Mexico.

Relying on science and data along with ongoing community engagement is crucial.



Work with organizations on both sides of the US/Mexico border strengthens relationships and facilitates real change





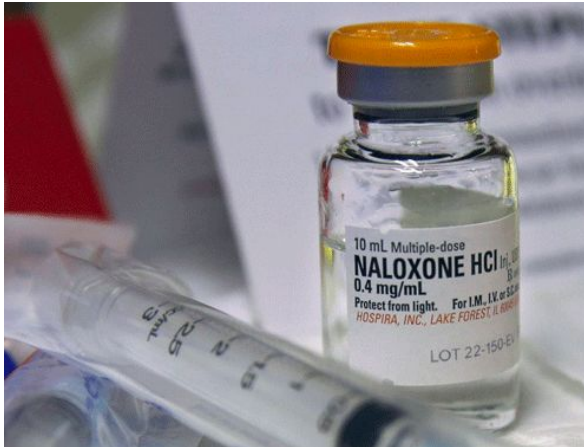
Harm Reduction Take Aways

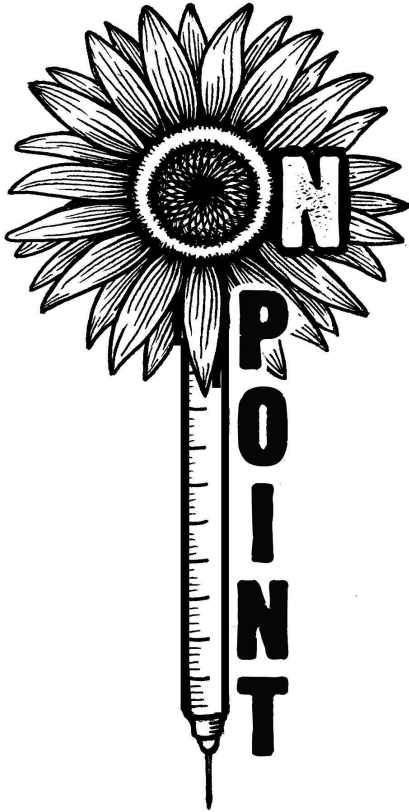
- Primary intervention in overdose fatalities, using widespread distribution of naloxone.
- Services are based on needs of the community
- Rely upon those with lived experience to develop and implement programs
- People who engage in services are 4-5x more likely to enter into substance use disorder
- Takes into account the reasons for drug use in first place - It is not a moral failure, but rather trauma and lack of connection
- Builds momentum and supports both the individual and community to make better, more informed decisions about their health
- Is cost effective

WHAT IS NALOXONE

■ Narcan is Naloxone

- Narcan® is a brand name
- Naloxone is an opioid antagonist “blocker” which reverses opioid overdose
- Does not get a person “high”
- Can be used IN or IM
- Does not get you high, is not addictive
- Stays in the system 30-90 min
- Keep out of sunlight for storage





THANK YOU



Presented by the Harm
Reduction Coalition of
San Diego ON POINT

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GOALS

Service: To provide people who use drugs with information on the contents of their drugs they intend to use so they can make better informed choices

Comprehensive Harm Reduction Strategy

Approved by San Diego County Board of Supervisors on June 8, 2021, the CHRS envisions a community where the impacts related to substance use are seen as a crisis that influences overall health, well-being, and the quality of life of the individual, families, and community, where stigma does not impede access to services, and where we realize a community free of substance-related harms.

This strategy was created based on a mission to protect San Diegans from the individual, family, and community impact of drug use which prioritize human dignity, saving lives, providing appropriate levels of care for people who use drugs (PWUD), and best practices in addressing substance use and addiction.

Thinking Outside the Box

Ongoing engagement, listening sessions, and inclusion of people who use drugs in the planning and implementation of programs and policies.

Non-traditional settings

Drug checking (CHECKSD), drop in centers, drug user health, secondary distribution, credible messengers, and overdose prevention (SCS) sites

Ongoing work to address the stigma surrounding drug use by looking at our own personal biases and working to change the narrative in all areas

Leaning into evidence based interventions utilized around the world

Long Beach

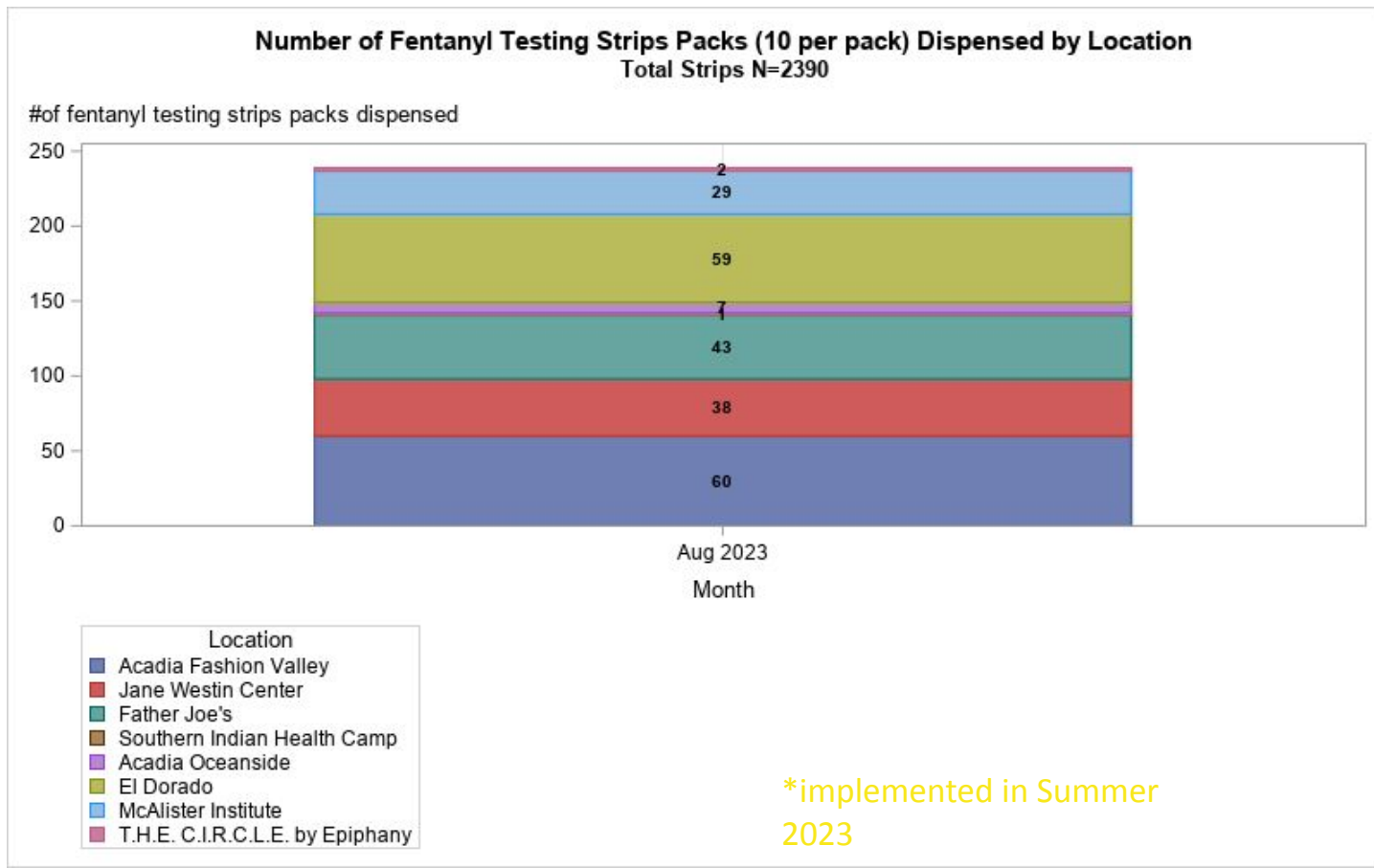
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Collaborations and Partnerships are Key to San Diego Overdose Education + Naloxone Distribution

- Working closely with stakeholders, coalitions, task forces, treatment and homeless service providers, those with lived experience, medical providers, law enforcement and criminal justice partners, CBOs, and other key players helps to build a supportive and collaborative community in which we can accomplish the goals of SD OEND, which is to save lives.
- Education, shared ideas, and innovative strategies have been key in the development of local response to the overdose crisis we face today.
- As a result, we have been able to establish partnerships with HIDTA, OD Maps, researchers, SD County, and others, with the goal of saving lives and preventing overdose. So much of this is done by reducing the stigma and educating each other.

Fentanyl Testing Strips accessed through Vending Machines





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Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

International Journal of Drug Policy

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/drugpo



Research Paper

Drug checking in the fentanyl era: Utilization and interest among people who inject drugs in San Diego, California



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Main findings: PWUD in San Diego are interested in drug checking services but prefer FTIR over

FTC



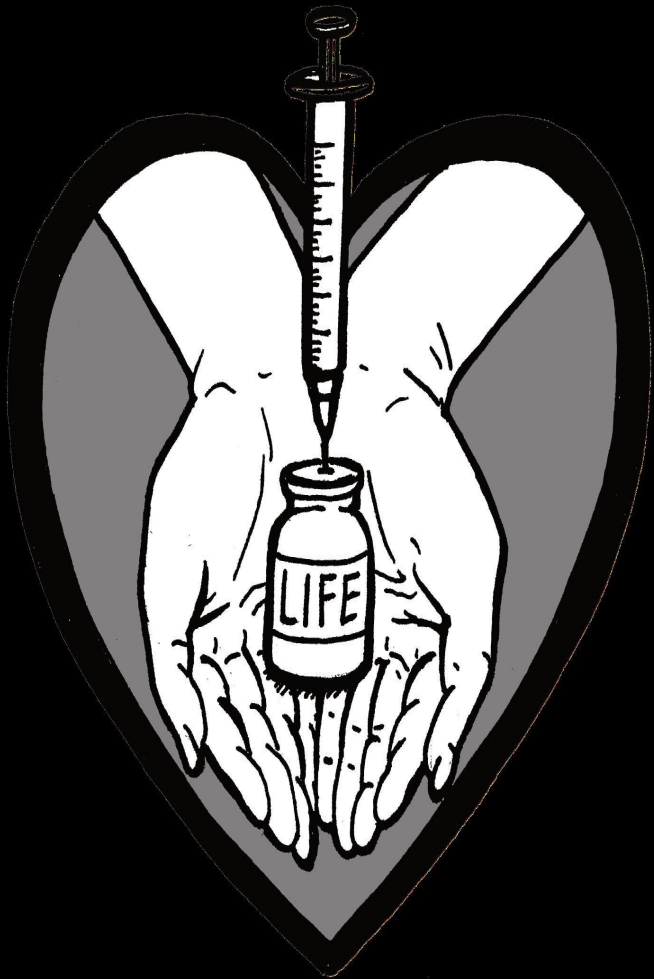
GOALS

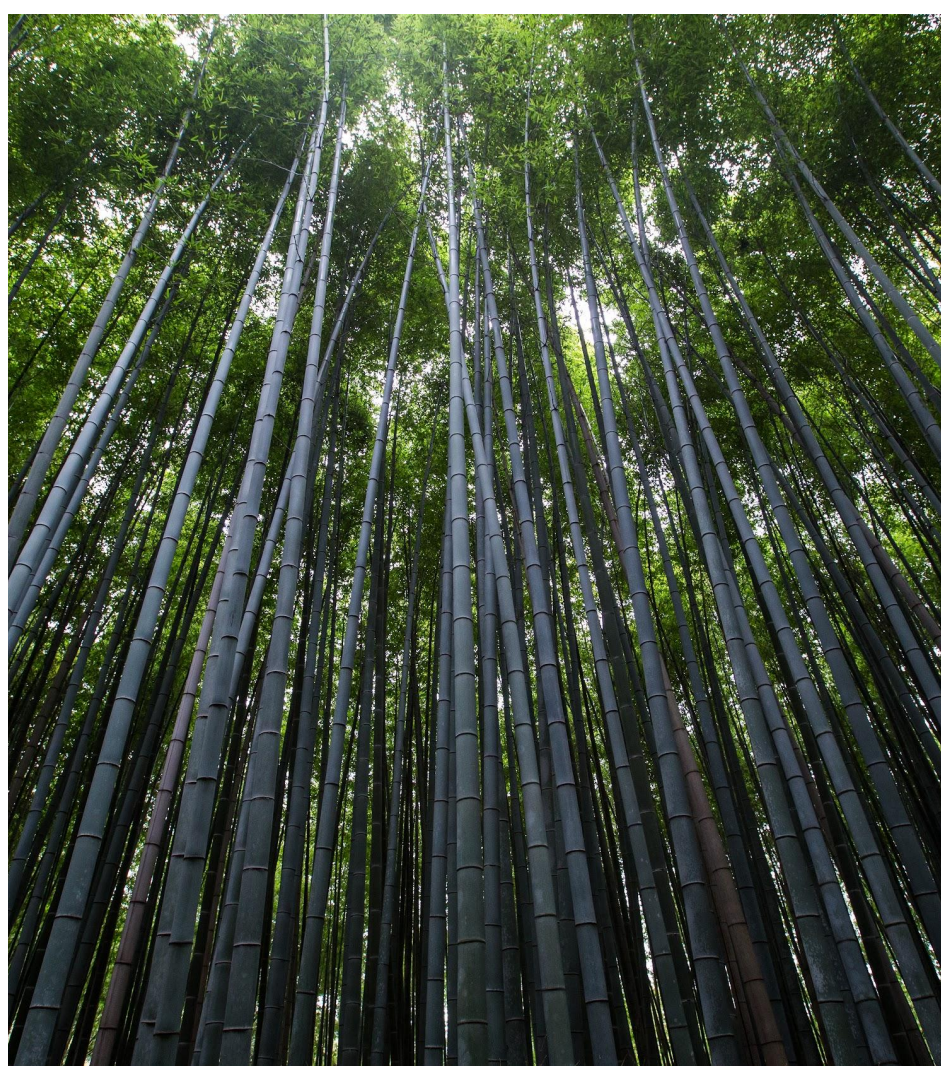
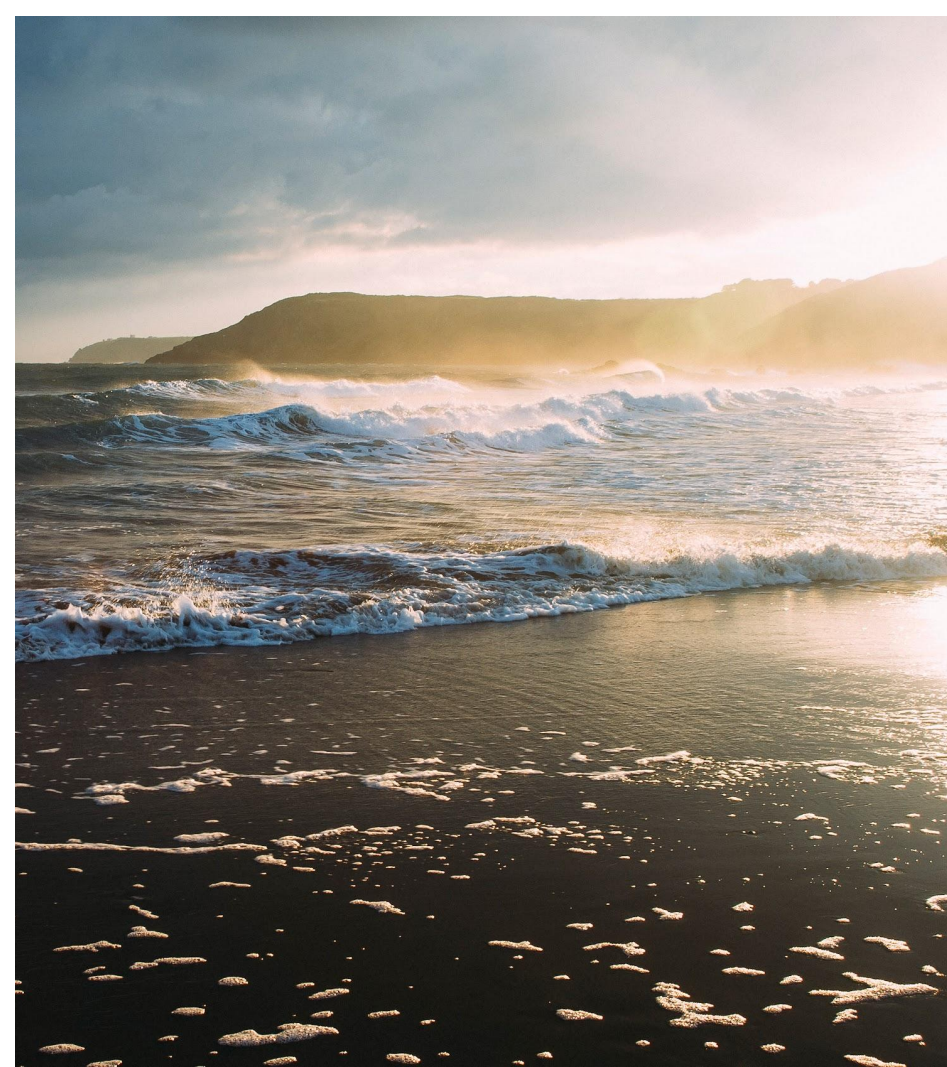
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MEDICATION FOR SUBSTANCE TREATMENT

Effective medication can be another way to reduce drug use, fatal overdose, HIV and hepatitis.







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