

Funding Opportunities for Syringe Services Programs



Syringe Services Programs (SSPs) provide comprehensive harm reduction services. Services include providing free sterile syringes and other injection equipment, safe disposal of used syringes, HIV and hepatitis C testing and linkage to prevention and treatment services, overdose prevention and education, and referrals to substance use disorder treatment.

The purpose of this document is to help agencies find funding to build new SSPs and to help existing SSPs diversify their funding.

[Tennessee SSPs and locations](#)

[Learn how to become a SSP in Tennessee](#)

Continuous Funders	Description
<u>Comer Family Foundation</u>	<p>Since 1992, the Comer Family Foundation has supported comprehensive harm reduction programs. The Comer Family Foundation accepts grant applications May 1st and November 1st of each year.</p> <p>Learn more and apply at: https://www.comerfamilyfoundation.org/syringe-service-program/grant-applicants.html</p>
<u>North American Syringe Exchange Network (NASEN)</u>	<p>NASEN provides information, limited loans, grant funding, and technical support to new and existing SSPs.</p> <p>NASEN Support Package: <i>When possible</i>, NASEN provides program support packages (PSPs), which are intended to support newly emerging SSPs programs or resource-lacking programs with harm reduction supplies to assist in the beginning stages of developing their programs.</p> <p>Learn more at: https://www.nasen.org/programs/ Contact for more information: https://davepurchaseproject.org/contact</p>
<u>AIDS United</u>	<p>The AIDS United Harm Reduction Futures Fund (<i>formerly known as Syringe Access Fund</i>) is a national grant-making initiative that invests in evidence-based and community-driven approaches to prevent the transmission of both HIV and viral hepatitis, reduce injection-related injuries, increase overdose prevention and reversal efforts, and connect people who use drugs to comprehensive prevention, treatment, and support services.</p> <p>Learn more and apply at: https://aidsunited.org/grants/</p>

Buyers Club	Description
<p><u>Points of Distribution</u></p>	<p>Points of Distribution (POD) Marketplace is a full-service harm reduction marketplace focused on providing services and supplies to harm reduction programs and individuals who use drugs.</p> <p>To get started with POD, you must register so they can determine your pricing. POD makes no profit from the sale of the supplies they offer. They do add a sliding scale margin (from 0% to 3%) based on the size of your program’s budget to offset the cost of shipping and handling.</p> <p>Register at: https://pointsofdistribution.org/pages/register</p>
<p><u>Remedy Alliance</u></p>	<p>Remedy Alliance works to ensure that harm reduction programs have sustainable and equitable access to low-cost injectable naloxone for distribution in their communities through their Buyers Club.</p> <p>Learn more and apply for free or no cost naloxone: https://remedyallianceftp.org/pages/apply</p>
<p><u>Direct Relief</u></p>	<p>Safety Net Support Program provides clinic and health center partners with donated products that are free of charge at least once a month. These products may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Naloxone - Free medical supplies (e.g., wound care, medications, personal care products, etc.) - 3cc syringes (necessary for intramuscular naloxone and gender affirming hormone therapy). <p>Your organization must have a Medical Director or Pharmacist with a valid state license. For organizations without a prescriber, consider partnering with a free charitable clinic to access Direct Relief offerings.</p> <p>Apply to join the Direct Relief network: https://webportalapp.com/sp/login/directrelief-safetynetsupportprogram</p>
<p><u>North American Syringe Exchange Network (NASEN)</u></p>	<p>NASEN Buyers Club: NASEN provides a purchasing network that uses co-operative buying power to acquire harm reduction supplies including syringes and naloxone at the lowest prices for SSPs. All programs must complete and submit the NASEN Directory Questionnaire.</p> <p>Learn more and apply at: https://nasen.org/buyers-club-app</p>

For more information, please contact SSP.Health@tn.gov

Periodic Funders	Description
<p><u>HepConnect (Gilead)</u></p>	<p>HepConnect supports community programs designed to reach people in need by opening doors to harm reduction services. HepConnect has three areas of focus: expand screening and linkage to care, support harm reduction and community education, and activate healthcare infrastructure.</p> <p>Learn more at: https://www.gilead.com/purpose/partnerships-and-community/hepconnect</p>
<p><u>Broadway Cares: Equity Fights AIDS</u></p>	<p>Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS provides funding to local and national organizations with substance use, harm reduction, and direct services programs. They also fund supplemental and emergency grants with health initiatives for arts organizations.</p> <p>Explore current funding opportunities at: https://broadwaycares.org/national-grants/</p>
<p><u>Open Society Foundations</u></p>	<p>Open Society Foundations award grants, scholarships, and fellowships to organizations and individuals. The Foundation advocates for drug policy based on public health rather than punishment. They support approaches that do not require cessation of drug use as a precondition of support, as well as advocacy efforts related to SSPs and overdose prevention sites.</p> <p>Explore current funding opportunities at: https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/grants</p>
<p><u>Elton John Foundation</u></p>	<p>The Elton John Foundation offers grants in areas related to healthcare access, HIV prevention, and HIV care. They have previously funded harm reduction, syringe access direct services, and policy work.</p> <p>Announcements on new funding rounds – including key dates and details on how to apply – will be posted on their website and on their social media channels.</p> <p>Explore current funding opportunities at: https://www.eltonjohnaidsfoundation.org/funding/</p> <p><i>Social Media Accounts:</i> Twitter / X: @ejaf Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/eltonjohnaidsfoundation Instagram: @ejaf LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/elton-john-aids-foundation/</p>

Federal Funders	Description
<p>Grants.gov</p>	<p>Grants.gov is a common website managed by the Department of Health and Human Services for federal agencies to post funding opportunities.</p> <p>Try using key search words to find relevant funding opportunities such as searching “harm reduction.”</p> <p>Explore harm reduction funding opportunities at: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=harm%20reduction</p>
<p>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)</p>	<p>SAMHSA is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. They also provide harm reduction resources and grant opportunities.</p> <p>Try using key search words to find relevant funding opportunities such as searching “harm reduction.”</p> <p>Explore current funding opportunities at: https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grants-dashboard</p>
<p>Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP)</p>	<p>RCORP is an initiative that addresses barriers to treatment for substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder. RCORP is supported through HRSA’s Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. RCORP has five grant programs in HRSA-designated rural areas.</p> <p>HRSA-designated rural eligibility check: https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/rural-health</p> <p>Explore current funding opportunities at: https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding?text=&status=All&bureau=90&sort=deadline_DESC</p>
<p>National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)</p>	<p>NACCHO is the Washington, DC-based organization representing local public health departments in the U.S. They provide resources to help strengthen local health departments and have funded harm reduction programs in the past.</p> <p>Try using key search words to find relevant funding opportunities such as searching “harm reduction.”</p> <p>Explore current funding opportunities at: https://www.naccho.org/blog/essential-elements?subcategory[]=funding-opportunity</p>

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Additional Funding Strategies

National Harm Reduction Coalition

The **National Harm Reduction Coalition** developed a toolkit related to sustainable funding for harm reduction programs. They also have an e-course related to the toolkit.

To access the toolkit visit: https://harmreduction.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Harm-Reduction-is-Healthcare_Toolkit-1.pdf

To access the e-course visit: <https://harmreduction.org/issues/harm-reduction-is-healthcare-sustainable-funding-for-harm-reduction-programs/>

National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)

NASTAD developed a funding resource to provide current or newly implemented programs with an overview of useful tools that can assist programs in leveraging funding, diversifying streams of funding, and drafting a grant proposal.

To access this resource visit: <https://nastad.org/resources/navigating-harm-reduction-funding-landscape>

Drug Take Back Events

Partner with local Take Back Events to collect unused medical supplies including syringes (still in sealed boxes and bags) to support local SSPs.

To learn more about Take Back Events in Tennessee visit: <https://tntogether.com/takebackday/>

Hospitals, Managed Care, VA centers, U.S. Military, & Universities

Collaborate with local hospitals, clinics, VA centers, military entities, and universities to acquire unused (close to expiration) needles, syringes, and other medical supplies.

Merchandise Sales

Merchandise sales is a common way for SSPs to acquire funding for supplies. Consider working with local artists to help create SSP merchandise. *Examples:*

[Sonoran Prevention Works](#)

[Iowa Harm Reduction Coalition](#)

Media Campaigns

Create a media campaign highlighting your program's importance and its community benefit. Successful media campaigns foster community buy-in, can lead to future city/council funding/support, and direct donations from community. *Examples:*

Infographic: [Michigan Harm Reduction Media Campaign](#)

Video: [NC harm reduction video](#) or [Atlanta Harm Reduction Coalition](#)

Large Syringe Sellers	Contact syringe makers (BD, Easy Touch, etc.) and build collaborations with their charitable services division to get donations or discounts.
Private Donors & Corporate Sponsors	Develop direct campaigns to potential donors or sponsors to build collaborations.
Wishlist/Donation Button	Add a donation link on your website and/or social media handles where individuals can directly and virtually donate to your organization. Another option is to create a Wishlist (e.g., Amazon Wishlist) and place the Wishlist Link on your website and/or social media handles where individuals can directly donate needed supplies to your organization.
Pharmaceutical Company Donations	Contact pharmaceutical companies for donations to purchase various harm reductions supplies (including syringes).
Habitat for Humanity ReStores	Some ReStores often have supplies such as syringes, pipes, bottlecaps, tourniquets at more affordable prices. To find a ReStore need you visit: https://www.habitat.org/restores
Strategic Grant Writing	Diversify your funding by applying for and securing grants from different agencies. Begin by creating a strong foundational grant application, which can serve as a grant template, and use a folder to house all documents frequently asked for in grant applications. Pull material from your strong grant template to shape narrative sections in future grant applications. Pull required documents from your grant folder. Having a grant template and resource folder will save you time and keep you organized for future opportunities. Be sure to keep your grant template and resource folder up to date. Consider attending grant writing workshops or classes to help build that strong foundational grant. Explore this grant writing resource that includes a checklist and other tips: https://fundingforgood.org/grant-readiness-assessment/

Created: 2/2022 Updated: 12/2023