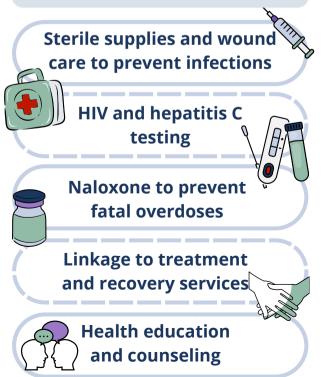
### What are Syringe Services Programs (SSPs)?

## SSPs REMAIN SCARCE ACROSS TN

SSPs are a evidence-based public health strategy and they are cost-effective too.

Data has consistently demonstrated that SSPs save lives, reduce the transmission of infectious diseases, provide health services, and link people who use drugs to recovery.

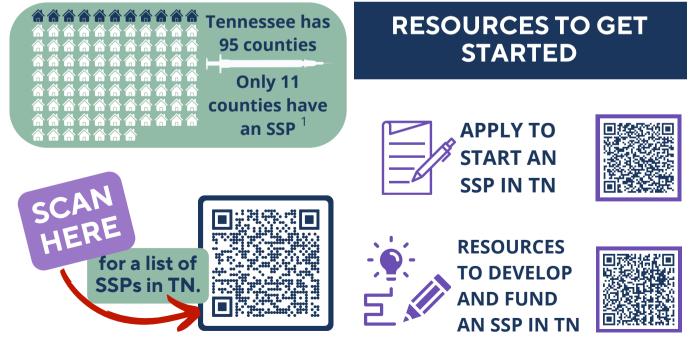
### SERVICES PROVIDED BY SSPs<sup>1</sup>



Many TN counties vulnerable to an HIV/hepatitis C outbreak associated with drug use do not have an SSP.<sup>2</sup> As of 2023, only 5 of TN's 22 highly vulnerable counties have an SSP.



As drug use rises in TN, so does the potential for the transmission of bloodborne pathogens. SSPs are a proven intervention to prevent potential HIV and hepatitis C outbreaks among people who use drugs.



tinyurl.com/TNSSPs

### COMMUNITY BENEFIT

## **QUESTIONS?**



SYRINGE ACCESS SAVES MONEY

\$54,281

The **median** 

hospital charge

for endocarditis

hospitalization

due to drug

dependence <sup>9</sup>

#### \$420,285

The estimated lifetime cost of **treatment for HIV** as of 2019 <sup>7</sup>

#### \$84,000

The estimated cost of a 12week **hepatitis C** treatment <sup>8</sup>



The cost to distribute a syringe at a large rural SSP!<sup>6</sup>



For more information on SSPs in TN, contact us: **SSP.Health@tn.gov**.

## REFERENCES

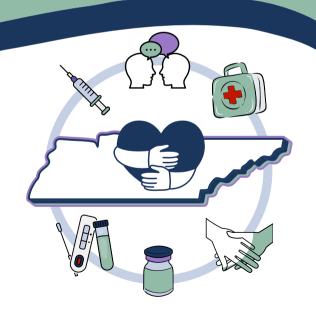
- 1. Tennessee Department of Health. (n.d.). Harm Reduction and Syringe Services Program(SSPs). Syringe Services Program (SSPs). Retrieved from <u>https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/std/std/syringe-services-</u> program.html
- 2. Tennessee Department of Health. (2021). County-Level Vulnerability to HIV and Hepatitis C Outbreaks Due to Injection Drug Use – Tennessee, 2021 Update. Vulnerability Assessment. Retrieved from <u>https://www.tn.gov/health/healthprogram-areas/std/std/vulnerability-assessment.html</u>
- 3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2019, May 23). Syringe Services Programs (SSPs) Fact Sheet. CDC Syringe Service Programs (SSPs). Retrieved from <u>https://www.cdc.gov/ssp/syringe-services-programs-factsheet.html</u>
- 4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2019, May 23). Summary of Information on the Safety and Effectiveness of Syringe Services Programs (SSPs). CDC Syringe Service Programs (SSPs). Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/ssp/syringe-services-programs-summary.html
- 5. Tookes, H. E., Kral, A. H., Wenger, L. D., Cardenas, G. A., Martinez, A. N., Sherman, R. L., Pereyra, M., Forrest, D. W., LaLota, M., & Metsch, L. R. (2012). A comparison of syringe disposal practices among injection drug users in a city with versus a city without needle and syringe programs. Drug and alcohol dependence, 123(1-3), 255–259. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2011.12.001
- 6. Teshale, E. H., Asher, A., Aslam, M. V., Augustine, R., Duncan, E., Rose-Wood, A., Ward, J., Mermin, J., Owusu-Edusei, K., & Dietz, P. M. (2019). Estimated cost of comprehensive syringe service program in the United States. PloS one, 14(4), e0216205. <u>https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0216205</u>
- 7. Bingham, A., Shrestha, R. K., Khurana, N., Jacobson, E. U., & Farnham, P. G. (2021). Estimated Lifetime HIV-Related Medical Costs in the United States. Sexually transmitted diseases, 48(4), 299–304.

#### https://doi.org/10.1097/OLQ.00000000001366

- Fleischauer, A. T., Ruhl, L., Rhea, S., & Barnes, E. (2017, June 9). Hospitalizations for endocarditis and associated health care costs among persons with diagnosed drug dependence - North Carolina, 2010–2015. CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Retrieved from
- https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/wr/mm6622a1.htm
- Henry B. (2018). DRUG PRICING & CHALLENGES TO HEPATITIS C TREATMENT ACCESS. Journal of health & biomedical law, 14, 265–283.
- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6152913/

10. McClain, T. (2021, September 23). Why communities in most need of syringe exchange programs are eliminating them despite proven success. O'Neill Institute for National & Global Health Law. Retrieved from <u>https://oneill.law.georgetown.edu/why-communities-in-most-need-of-syringeexchange-programs-are-eliminating-them-despite-proven-success/</u>

# SYRINGE SERVICES PROGRAMS SAVE LIVES & MONEY





**<u>\$661</u>** The estimated **cost per client** per year for a large rural **SSP**<sup>11</sup>