

Laurel Gazza

From: Jillian Ritter
Sent: Monday, June 05, 2017 3:29 PM
To: Agenda Management Support
Subject: #92

From: John Leopold
Sent: Monday, June 05, 2017 2:11 PM
To: Jillian Ritter <Jillian.Ritter@santacruzcounty.us>
Subject: Fwd: Syringe Services Program

John Leopold, County Supervisor, 1st District
 701 Ocean Street
 Santa Cruz, CA 95060
 831-454-2200
john.leopold@santacruzcounty.us

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Giannini <davidgiannini@yahoo.com>
Date: June 5, 2017 at 8:35:03 AM PDT
To: "john.leopold@co.santa-cruz.ca.us" <john.leopold@co.santa-cruz.ca.us>, "zach.friend@co.santa-cruz.ca.us" <zach.friend@co.santa-cruz.ca.us>, "ryan.coonerty@santacruzcounty.us" <ryan.coonerty@santacruzcounty.us>, "greg.caput@co.santa-cruz.ca.us" <greg.caput@co.santa-cruz.ca.us>, "bruce.mcpherson@co.santa-cruz.ca.us" <bruce.mcpherson@co.santa-cruz.ca.us>, "Giang.Nguyen@santacruzcounty.us" <Giang.Nguyen@santacruzcounty.us>, "Arnold.Leff@santacruzcounty.us" <Arnold.Leff@santacruzcounty.us>, "Susan.Mauriello@santacruzcounty.us" <Susan.Mauriello@santacruzcounty.us>
Subject: Syringe Services Program
Reply-To: David Giannini <davidgiannini@yahoo.com>

Dear County Officials,

I am writing to you today to express my frustration with the operation of the Syringe Services Program. I have read the latest report and while I laud the proposed changes, I would encourage you to add the following:

1. Move back to a true 1 for 1 exchange, if even for a trial period to see what impact a 1 for 1 exchange has on publicly discarded used syringes. Without a true 1 for 1 exchange a used syringe has no value and is easily discarded. Think can and bottle litter prior to the deposit laws being enacted.

2. Work with the Emiline neighborhood to evaluate the impact the SSP has on the community.
3. Stop the practice of weighing the contents of the disposal kiosks which serve only to inflate the number of syringes returned. A 1 for 1 exchange would eliminate the need to weigh whatever it is that gets dropped into the kiosks.
4. Take responsibility for the medical expenses of the residents that are unfortunately victims of a "needle stick".
5. Integrate the "exchange" with other county and state programs that are fighting the opioid addiction epidemic.
6. In general place more emphasis on moving "clients" toward recovery. The referral numbers are embarrassing. Santa Cruz county has a large population of recovered addicts. This is an untapped resource. Working to integrate folks in recovery would be an excellent idea.
7. Continue to improve transparency and accountability. Ample notice of hearings and reports should be the standard for all activities that the community should be aware of.

Thank you for your attention,

David Giannini
Santa Cruz City resident
Clean and Sober since 1990