The main goal of all syringe exchange programs (SEPs):

- Prevent the spread of blood-borne diseases in the community
  - HIV
  - Hepatitis C
- Access to clean needles
  - Prevent sharing among people who use drugs
  - Prevent the spread of disease to partners
Syringe Exchange Programs are an Early Intervention

- A starting point to help people begin to make changes, mitigate consequences and, in time, lead healthier, more self-directed lives

- Each visit is an opportunity to develop a relationship that leads to treatment
People who utilize syringe exchanges are **FIVE (5)** times more likely to go into treatment.
Syringe Exchanges Have Existed for Decades

Study after study has proven that they do NOT lead to more drug use and are proven to prevent the spread of HIV and Hepatitis C
Research: Needle-sharing dropped among addicts using Ind. exchange
Laura Ungar, USA TODAY 8:11 a.m. EDT October 7, 2015

Needle-sharing dropped significantly among addicts who used a syringe exchange program started in response to Indiana’s worst-ever HIV outbreak, says research being released by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Wednesday.
Saving Lives, Investing in Disease Prevention

![Graph showing LMSEP Cost Saving](image)

- LMSEP Budget
- Hep C Treatment Cost
- HIV Treatment Cost

Cost for the Outbreak of 30,000 HIV Cases and 25,000 Hep C Cases

LMSEP Budget: $250,000
One for One Exchange Policies Fail to Increase Syringe Return Rates.

A 2007 research study found that after investigating syringe return rates in three US cities -- Oakland, Chicago and Hartford -- that returns were highest (nearly 90 percent) in the city with the most liberal policy (Chicago) and lowest (only 50 percent) in the city with the most restrictive policy (Hartford).*

Participants are Returning Syringes
Community Syringe Clean Up

- Coordinated and provided by KY Harm Reduction, VOA, Young People in Recovery
- 18 community clean ups to date
- Call 311 or 574-6520 to report discarded syringes
Data thru 11/21/2015

- 1,329 participants with 325 (43%) returning participants total, 70% weekly return rate

- Tested 156 people for HIV
  - No positives

- Tested 86 people for Hepatitis C
  - 52 positive, referred for medical treatment

- Referred 88 people for drug treatment

The program is working!
New Community Exchange Sites

- Began October 22
  - Lake Dreamland Fire Station, 4603 Cane Run Rd.
  - Thursdays, 11a - 2p

- New! Coming in December...
  - Redeemer Lutheran Church, 3640 River Park Dr.
  - Tuesdays, 11a - 2p
Questions?