Dr. Hansel Tookes, Medical Director
Daniel Johnson, Director
Carlos Padron, Senior Research Associate
Emelina Martinez, Outreach Coordinator
About Us

• The IDEA Exchange is Florida’s first legal syringe exchange program

• The program launched on World AIDS day, December 1st 2016

• Program Services:
  • Sterile syringe Exchange
  • Free anonymous HIV and HCV Testing
  • Referrals to HIV & HCV treatment and counseling services
  • Referrals to drug treatment services
  • Overdose Prevention
  • Basic Wound Care
Infectious Disease Elimination Act, 2016

- Effective 07/01/2016
- Authorizes the University of Miami and its affiliates to establish a sterile needle and syringe exchange pilot program in Miami-Dade County; providing that the possession, distribution, or exchange of needles and syringes under the pilot program is not a violation of the Florida Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act or any other law.

- The possession, distribution, or exchange of needles or syringes as part of the pilot program established under this subsection is not a violation of any part of chapter 893 or any other law.
Program Data

• 235 participants thru 04/19/17
• 1277 transactions
• 21,412 needles in
• 19,778 needles out
• HIV tests- 105
  • 7.7% of participants are HIV positives
• HCV tests- 74
  • 53.2% of the participants have either self-reported or tested HCV positive during enrollment
Mobile Unit Services

• Launching in April 2017
• Extends the program’s services throughout Miami-Dade County
• Locations include:
  • Florida City/ Homestead
  • Liberty City/ Hialeah
  • Miami Gardens/ Opa-Locka
  • Miami Beach
Overdose Prevention

• In response to the recent influx in opioid overdoses in Miami-Dade County, the IDEA Exchange has partnered with SFBHN to provide NARCAN to participants

• The IDEA Exchange will provide training and free doses to:
  • IDEA Exchange participants
  • Family and friends of participants
  • Law enforcement partners
Program Challenges

• Building trust from people who inject (PWI) community
• Reaching younger and non homeless PWI population
• Educating and partnering with law enforcement
• Building community awareness and involvement in the opioid crisis
• Providing successful links to medical care and drug rehabilitation treatment programs
IDEA Exchange Partners

• Miami-Dade Department of Health
• AIDS Healthcare Foundation
• South Florida Behavioral Health Network
• Camillus House
• Care Resource
• The Village
• Center for AIDS Research
• South Florida AIDS Network
Questions & Discussions

“Fighting HIV in Miami, one dirty needle at a time”

Jose De León, MD, and Dr. Hansof Toulle, a University of Miami medical resident, outside Jackson Memorial Hospital. Dr. León, who has HIV, is being treated by Toulle, who has been fighting the fight to help reduce HIV infections by starting a needle exchange pilot program.