Syndemics of HIV, Hepatitis, and Overdose

Wayne Smith
Samaritan Ministry
Central Baptist Church of Bearden
Knoxville, Tennessee
Overview

- Scope of Problem
- Impact of the CBO
- Our Collaborations
- Our New Syringe Exchange Law
- SSP Statistics – First 4 Months
Role of Samaritan Ministry

- The “Faith” Partner
- Breaking Barriers
- Science Matters

---

**Ending HIV in this Decade**

The tools are in place. Is it possible to realistically look toward and end to HIV in America?
Rural America

- Scott County, Indiana 2015
- 230 Confirmed HIV

www.samaritancentral.org
The Tennessee Problem

Vulnerability in Tennessee 2015 - CDC

Newly Reported Acute HCV 2016 - TDH

www.samaritancentral.org
# Acute HCV In Tennessee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>US Case Rate</th>
<th>US Cases</th>
<th>TN Case Rate</th>
<th>TN Cases</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1,229</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1,778</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>2,138</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>2,194</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>2,436</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>2,967</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tennessee Department of Health

www.samaritancentral.org
# HCV Testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>NUMBER TESTED</th>
<th>IDENTIFY AS IDU</th>
<th>POSITIVE RESULT</th>
<th>% POSITIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>2115</td>
<td>968</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All of our testing is done in partnership with Helen Ross McNabb Center.*

www.samaritancentral.org
Impact of HCV Testing Program

- Awareness at State Level
- Legislative Changes
- Formation of Coalitions
1. Changes at TDH

- Awareness of problem at ground level
- Organizational and staffing changes
- Development of HCV training protocol
- Availability of rapid HCV testing
2. Public Health Advisory

- July 27, 2015

- “In addition to reported cases of acute Hepatitis C it is estimated that more than 100,000 Tennesseans may be living with chronic Hepatitis C and not know it,”
3. Syringe Services in TN

- New Law Signed May 18, 2017
  - Non-governmental operation
  - No public funds can be used to purchase needles and supplies
  - Access to Naxolone
  - Treatment Referral
- 3 agencies awarded funds in Spring 2018
- Samaritan in partnership with two East Tennessee agencies
  - Purchase of supplies

www.samaritancentral.org
## SSP East Tennessee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>TOTAL SERVED</th>
<th>SYRINGES DISTRIBUTED</th>
<th>SYRINGES COLLECTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positively Living</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>30,500</td>
<td>7,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cempa Community Care</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>13,300</td>
<td>8,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>324</strong></td>
<td><strong>240</strong></td>
<td><strong>564</strong></td>
<td><strong>43,800</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Through a grant ($5000) from the MAC AIDS FUND, Samaritan Ministry purchased over 35,000 syringes and other supplies for these two programs.
4. New Collaborations

- Metro Drug Coalition*
- Harm Reduction Coalition
- Naloxone Community Collaborative

*MDC has been a community partner since 1986.
Challenges

- HCV
  - Referral for RNA Testing/Follow-up
  - Linkage to Care
  - Treatment Options/Providers (0-30)
- Syringe Exchange
  - Keeping up
  - Cost of needles and supplies
- Naloxone
  - Training/Awareness

www.samaritancentral.org
Thanks

- Tennessee Department of Health
- Cempa Community Care, Chattanooga
- Positively Living, Knoxville
- Helen Ross McNabb Center, Knoxville
- NASTAD
- OraSure Technologies
- MAC AIDS Fund

www.samaritancentral.org