A PLACE
for harm reduction

A Community Assessment Tool to Measure Harm Reduction Readiness

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Agenda

❑ Introduce Community Mobilization Model:

❑Use APLACE to assess agency's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to maintain and expand HR.

What is the A PLACE
community assessment
model?

Slide 1

A	• AWARENESS
P	• POLICY & PRACTICE
L	• LEADERSHIP
A	• ALLIANCES
C	• CULTURE COMPETENCY
E	• ESTABLISH/EXPAND

Slide 2

How do we build A PLACE for HR?

Build and/or Expand :

- Community **AWARENESS** of the need for HR
- Understanding around **POLICY** issues that impact HR
- **LEADERSHIP** to champion HR
- **ALLIANCES** that support and aid the establishment & expansion of HR
- **CULTURAL** competency to serve PWUD
- Capacity to **ESTABLISH** HR
- HR capacity to **EXPAND & EVALUATE** to meet health needs of PWUD

Slide 3

A • AWARENESS

- What is your AGENCY's level of awareness around health risks facing PWUD?
- How does your AGENCY regard HR as an intervention?
- How does your COMMUNITY regard HR as an intervention?
- What data/research/evaluation is available to inform your AGENCY/COMMUNITY about the needs of PWUD and how to address them?
- Where does the COMMUNITY get information around substance use issues?
- How does your AGENCY influence AWARENESS around HR?

P • POLICY

- What are the local policies that impact your AGENCY/COMMUNITY's capacity to implement HR?
- How do AGENCY/COMMUNITY policies impact the accessibility, availability & acceptability of HR?
- How are these current policies enforced in your AGENCY/COMMUNITY?
- How does your AGENCY influence POLICY & PRACTICE around HR?

L • LEADERSHIP

- In what ways does your AGENCY provide leadership around HR and drug-user related issues?
- What strategies could your AGENCY implement to support LEADERSHIP around HR?
- Who are the stakeholders and service providers that address substance use related issues in your COMMUNITY?
- What types of long-term support do HR leaders require?
- How can your AGENCY support HR leadership to make HR available, accessible and acceptable in your COMMUNITY?

Identifying stakeholders

- Drug users
- Friends and families of drug users
- Substance use treatment providers
- Jail discharge planners
- HIV prevention/treatment programs

- Health departments
- Emergency Departments of Hospitals
- Community health clinics and Health Care for the Homeless clinics
- HCV prevention and treatment providers
- EMTs

A • ALLIANCES

- What ALLIANCES/COALITIONS in your COMMUNITY address HR and other drug user related issues?
- Who are the constituents of these alliances (agencies, policy makers, law enforcement, health department, community members, drug users, etc)?
- What are the capacity building needs of these ALLIANCES to mobilize communities for the establishment or expansion of HR?
- In what ways do you or your agency participate in these ALLIANCES?
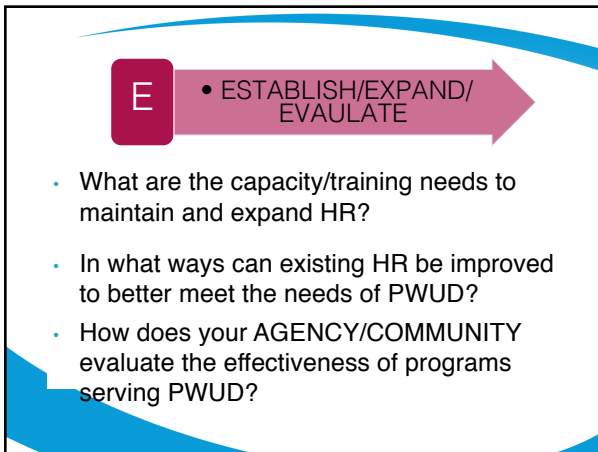
Alliance Building

- Law Enforcement
- Substance use treatment
- Recovery communities
- HIV and/or Hepatitis service providers
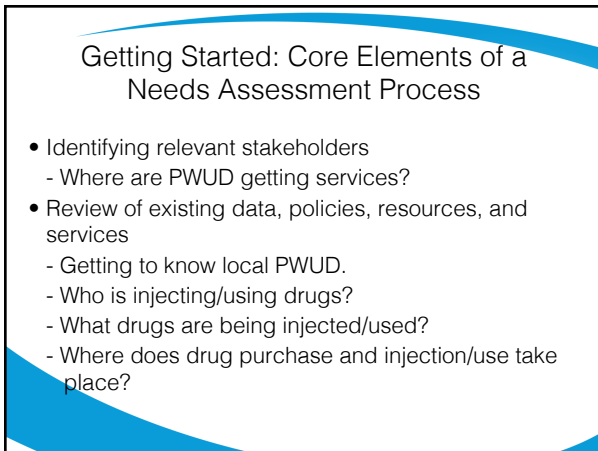- Education institutions
- Local and state government

C • CULTURAL COMPETENCY

- In what ways is your AGENCY culturally competent to meet the needs of PWUD?
- How does your AGENCY build cultural competency around HR/serving PWUD?
- In what way does your AGENCY/COMMUNITY provide COMPREHENSIVE services to engage and meet the needs of PWUD?
- In what ways are PWUD involved in the processes of program planning and/or service provision?

E • ESTABLISH/EXPAND/ EVAULATE

- What are the capacity/training needs to maintain and expand HR?
- In what ways can existing HR be improved to better meet the needs of PWUD?
- How does your AGENCY/COMMUNITY evaluate the effectiveness of programs serving PWUD?

Getting Started: Core Elements of a Needs Assessment Process

- Identifying relevant stakeholders
  - Where are PWUD getting services?
- Review of existing data, policies, resources, and services
  - Getting to know local PWUD.
  - Who is injecting/using drugs?
  - What drugs are being injected/used?
  - Where does drug purchase and injection/use take place?

Putting A PLACE to work:

Moving forward:

What is needed to have

Harm Reduction Services

Accessible, Available & Accepted

in your Community/Agency?

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harm reduction
COALITION

Thank you!!

Harm Reduction Community Mobilization

For further training / capacity building, email us at:
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www.harmreduction.org