

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Safe Disposal Work Group Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2021 – via Zoom

Present:

Lynette Myers, Co-chair, CDPHE

Kelly Rawlins, Porter Adventist/Regis University

P.J. Higgins, Community Health Partnership

Megan Canon, CDPHE

Consortium: Tyler Payne, Jessica Eaddy, Lindsey Simbeye, Michael Davidson, Rosemarie MacDowell

Absent: See attached list.

Co-Chair Lynette Myers called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the July 2021 meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Sharps Collection Program Update:

Lynette Myers provided a preliminary review of the program metrics and collector activity from 2017 onward. She will have more information available at the next work group meeting. She mentioned that additional education and outreach may have to be done for communities that are smaller and in more remote locations of the state.

There are now ten sharps locations. The RFP seeking a new contractor is due on September 16th. Other kiosk locations are noted in yellow on the attached report.

Lynette reviewed the sharps mail back results. Pharmacies, non-profits, and local health agencies were provided mail back containers to provide to individuals. Since beginning distribution in January of 2021, there are now 61 collectors (partners distributing sharps mail back containers to individuals). Approximately 285 pounds of sharps have been collected. Out of 1,872 containers distributed, only 159 were returned since January.

The kiosk program has ten collection sites along the front range. Over 500 pounds of sharps have been collected since January. The RFP includes collection to cover additional geographic areas. Sharps collection is a challenge because of the hazards related to the material.

Medication Take-Back Program Update:

The pandemic caused a decrease in the amount of medications collected. Medication collection is now increasing. Twelve additional kiosks have been added over the past six months. Over 5,300 pounds of medications were collected during the month of August. Several hospitals have shown interest in obtaining a kiosk.

Lindsey Simbeye is working on a medication collection event in all five counties located in her northwest area of the state. The events will take place in October prior to the DEA Take-back. Jackson County will conduct their medication collection at a health fair on October 16th.

P.J. Higgins and Lynette briefly discussed the sharps collection kiosks in Colorado Springs and whether or not trash contamination is an issue. Lynette said that the collectors have not reported much contamination. P.J. would like to do educational outreach and will contact Lynette offline.

Consortium Updates:

The annual meeting will be held on Thursday, October 28th. Tyler Payne said Consortium staff is currently working on the agenda, which will include updates from all work groups.

Adjournment/Next Meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m. The next work group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, 2021 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Attachments: Disposal presentation and work group roster