

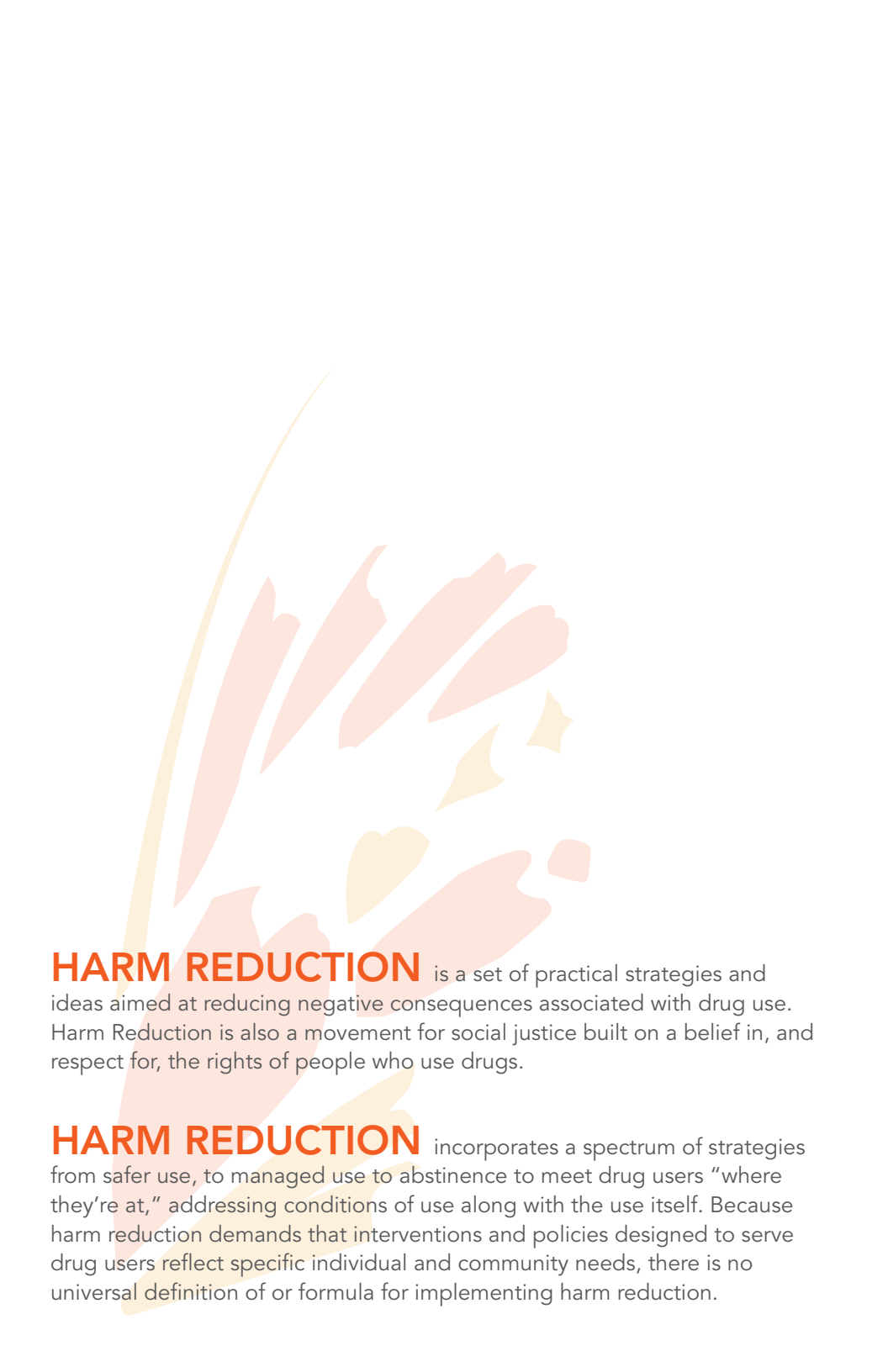
TAKING DRUG USERS SERIOUSLY



A 2012 DELEGATES' GUIDE TO HARM REDUCTION AND DRUG POLICY

XIX INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE
JULY 22 – 27, 2012
WASHINGTON D.C., UNITED STATES





HARM REDUCTION is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use. Harm Reduction is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in, and respect for, the rights of people who use drugs.

HARM REDUCTION incorporates a spectrum of strategies from safer use, to managed use to abstinence to meet drug users "where they're at," addressing conditions of use along with the use itself. Because harm reduction demands that interventions and policies designed to serve drug users reflect specific individual and community needs, there is no universal definition of or formula for implementing harm reduction.

INTRODUCTION

Drug policy shapes the course of the Global HIV pandemic. A criminal justice approach to drug use hampers effective public health work. Moving beyond this punitive response to drug use is essential if we are to eliminate blood borne HIV and provide for healthier communities.

This roadmap will provide a guide to the few presentations that address this important subject at AIDS 2012.

NETWORKING ZONE



The Harm Reduction Coalition will be hosting the Harm Reduction & Drug Policy Zone at the International AIDS Conference located in the Global Village in space 803. The Global Village is FREE and open to the public.

WHAT TO EXPECT

In partnership with PHS Community Services Society from Vancouver, BC there will be a spectacular replica of a working Safe Injection Facility; harm reduction services from Washington, D.C. will be represented by the needle exchange outreach van from Family and Medical Counseling Services. The zone will be rounded out by video presentations from around the world by people who use drugs who are unable to attend this year's conference due to irrational U.S. drug laws. Special events and entertainments will occur in partnerships with Harm Reduction International, HIPS, International Drug Policy Consortium, Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, Eurasian Harm Reduction Network and the International Network of People Who Use Drugs.

MORE ON THE MOCK SAFE INJECTION FACILITY

Insite is North America's first and only supervised injection facility. With more than 800 visits per day, it's also the most used program of its kind in the world. Started in 2003 as a response to an epidemic of overdose deaths in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, it has since been proven in over 50 published independent studies to reduce the spread of diseases like HIV and Hepatitis C, reduce public disorder, save money, and save lives. At AIDS 2012 the PHS Community Services Society, the non-profit organization that operates Insite, aims to demonstrate how and why the site works. The mock safe injection facility will offer attendees and the general public the opportunity to experience Insite and understand the principles that have made it a success. For more information or to organize a tour contact David Godsall at 1-778-919-7584 or davidg@phs.ca

SERVICES

For Information about local harm reduction services visit us at the Harm Reduction & Drug Policy Networking Zone. For harm reduction related emergencies while in D.C., call the HIPS Crisis Hotline at 1-800-676-HIPS

WHERE TO FIND US

Please refer to the map on page 3 for the location of the Harm Reduction & Drug Policy Zone in the Global Village.

LEGEND

- Marketplace Booth
- NGO Booth
- Networking Zone
- Art Exhibit
- Information Desk
- Catering
- Restrooms
- Medical Contact Point
- Elevator
- Escalator



FRIDAY, JULY 20

SUNDAY, JULY 22

Pre-Conference Event

THE TWIN EPIDEMICS OF HIV AND DRUG USE: INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Time: 8:30 – 17:30

Location: Ronald Reagan Building

Please join amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research and the International AIDS Society (IAS) for a day-long conference on HIV and drug policy prior to the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012) in Washington D.C.

Globally, one in ten new HIV infections comes from unsafe injection of illicit drugs. The preconference meeting will highlight innovative programs that take a public health approach to drug use, reducing HIV infection and helping people access health care services. Due to space limitations, this is a registration only meeting and places will be awarded on a first-come first-served basis. For more information, please contact: Julie.Pluiers@iasociety.org.

HARM REDUCTION & DRUG POLICY NETWORKING ZONE GRAND OPENING

Time: 17:30 – 18:30

Location: Harm Reduction &
Drug Policy Networking Zone

Session Type: Special Event

Intermingle with the harm reduction and drug policy community at the official opening of the Harm Reduction & Drug Policy Networking Zone at AIDS2012.

MONDAY, JULY 23

DRUG POLICY VS. HIV: MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE?

Time: 07:00 – 08:30

Location: Session Room 8

Session Type: Non-Commercial Satellite

Effective public health work is often hampered by the punitive approach to drug use leaving drug users exposed to the risks of acquiring HIV, Viral Hepatitis, overdosing or experiencing untreated drug problems. Untreated tension exists between law enforcement, policing, drug control and on the other hand human rights, dignity and healthcare. Moving beyond a limited criminal justice response to drug use is essential if we are to eliminate bloodborne HIV and provide for healthier communities.

- **The Impact of Drug Policy on HIV Prevention on Drug Users of Color in US.**
Speaker: Bobby Tolbert, VOCAL, New York, USA
- **Barriers to Methadone in Afghanistan.**
Speaker: Olivier Maguet, Medecins du Monde, Afghanistan
- **Employment Discrimination against IDU & PLWHA in China.**
Speaker: Tingting Shen, Korekata AIDS Law Center, & Consultant for Asia Catalyst, Beijing, China
- **Drug use and expanding harm reduction in Kenya.**
Speaker: Tinga Kalafa, Kenya Network for IDUs Trust

DRUG USE AND HIV

Time: 10:30 – 11:00

Location: Latino Caribbean Diaspora Networking Zone

Session Type: Workshop

This workshop will address the links between drug use and HIV for non-specialized audiences. The main objective is to provide participants with relevant information on new drug-use patterns (injectable and non-injectable) and to present the main challenges the LAC region faces when it comes to HIV prevention, treatment and care among people who use drugs.

Presenters: Aram Barra, Pojects Director at Espolea, Mexico; Aaron Houston, Director at Students for a Sensitive Drug Policy, USA

DRUG USER OWNED AND OPERATED

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Location: Harm Reduction & Drug Policy Networking Zone

Session Type: Panel Presentation

Drug users have been the driving force behind initiatives that reduce the spread of HIV and HCV. However, while harm reduction and other services for people who use drugs are most successful when they incorporate drug users as leaders, that leadership potential is often underutilized or unrecognized. HIV services for drug users are disproportionately underfunded in the global response to HIV. In a world of troubled economies, building stronger communities and expanding effective

MONDAY, JULY 23

HIV prevention, treatment, and care for drug users is the critical and necessary course of action. This requires taking a community strengths-based approach that incorporates the expertise of drug users and recognizes their capacity as human rights advocates and allies.

- **Organizing drug users in communities of color**
Speaker: L. Jones, United States
- **Shaping harm reduction in East Africa**
Speaker: T. Abdulrahman Basheeib, Kenya
- **HCV – whose virus is it anyway?**
Speaker: L. Gangte, India
- **ARVs: people who use drugs as peer support givers**
Speaker: E. O'Mara, United Kingdom

OPIOID SUBSTITUTION TREATMENT AS HIV PREVENTION AMONG PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS: FOCUS ON DEVELOPING COUNTRY SETTINGS

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Location: Mini Room 5

Session Type: Scientific Development

WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVENTION, MEDICAL CARE AND HARM REDUCTION IN PRISONS: A PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE!

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Location: Mini Room 7

Session Type: Community Skills Development

DRUG USE AND ADDED VULNERABILITIES: DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS

Time: 12:30 – 13:05

Location: Latino Caribbean Diaspora Networking Zone

Session Type: Roundtable

Tailored strategies and programs have proven to be more effective when it comes to prevent new HIV infections among key populations (particularly among people who use drugs). Objective: to showcase best practices from the LAC region and to address the remaining challenges impeding their full success.

Moderator: Lisa Sanchez, Espolea, Mexico

Presenters: Elena Reynaga, President at Red Trase, Argentina; Allan Clear, Executive Director at HRC, USA; Marcus Day, director at Caribbean Drug and Alcohol Research Institute, St. Lucia

23RD INTERNATIONAL HARM REDUCTION CONFERENCE LAUNCH

Time: 13:00 – 14:00

Location: Harm Reduction & Drug Policy Zone

Session Type: Panel Presentation

Official launch of the next International Harm Reduction Conference, to be held in Vilnius, Lithuania.

MONDAY, JULY 23

ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS IN DEVELOPING YOUTH FRIENDLY HARM REDUCTION PROGRAMS: INNOVATIVE APPROACHES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Time: 13:00 – 14:00

Location: Global Village Session Room 1

Session Type: Panel Discussion

DRUG POLICIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND HIV

Time: 14:00 – 14:40

Location: Latino Caribbean Diaspora Networking Zone

Session Type: Spanish Roundtable

Drug prohibition has provoked massive Human Rights violations worldwide and continues to fuel the HIV pandemic.

OBJECTIVE: This session will analyze the impact on Human Rights of current drug policies and will discuss how the War on Drugs continues to fuel the HIV pandemic.

Moderator: Pablo Cymerman, Intercambios, Argentina

Presenters: Karolina Walecik, Global Drug Policy Programme, Open Society Foundations; Coletta Youngers, Drug Policy expert at WOLA, USA; Andrea Domanico, LANPUD representative, Brazil; Luis Alfonzo, Regional Advisor on Substance Abuse at PAHO

SIF FACILITIES

Time: 14:30 – 15:30

Location: Harm Reduction & Drug Policy Networking Zone

Session Type: HCLU Film Screening & Discussion

“Gadejuristen - The Danish Street Lawyers”, “Fixerum - Mobile Injection Room in Copenhagen” Since 1986, more than 90 Safer Injection Rooms (or drug consumption rooms) have been set up in Switzerland, the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Luxembourg, Norway, Canada and Australia. Recently the Danish parliament has voted in favour of legalizing the operation of consumption rooms. In Canada, the Supreme Court decided that it is a constitutional right of drug users to have InSite, the Vancouver consumption room keep running. The two films presented are about the struggle for consumption rooms in Denmark.

Discussion participants: Nanna Gottfredsen, Director of Street Lawyers and Donald MacPherson, Director of the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, Canada.

COMPREHENSIVE HIV PREVENTION FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS: WAYS FORWARD FOR INCLUSION OF NEEDLE AND SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

Time: 14:30 – 16:00

Location: Session Room 3

Session Type: Symposia Session

MONDAY, JULY 23

ENDING CRIMINALIZATION: LEGAL AND ADVOCACY STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS AND REPEAL DISCRIMINATORY LAWS

Time: 14:30 – 16:00

Location: Global Village Session Room 1

Session Type: Symposia Session

INVESTING IN TREATMENT: NOW AND LATER

Time: 14:30 – 16:00

Location: Session Room 8

Session Type: Oral Abstract Session

DRUG POLICY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Time: 14:30 – 16:00

Location: Session Room 7

Session Type: Oral Abstract Session

T-SHIRT DISTRIBUTION & PLACARD MAKING

Time: 16:30 – 18:00

Location: Harm Reduction &
Drug Policy Networking Zone

Session Type: Special Event

Join us for free t-shirts and to make placards and banners for Tuesday's We Can End AIDS – Human Rights & Harm Reduction March.

HIV, DRUG-USE AND RISKS IN DIFFERENT CONTEXTS

Time: 16:30 – 18:00

Location: Session Room 3

Session Type: Oral Abstract Session

HARM REDUCTION: AVAILABILITY, COVERAGE, EXPANSION AND EFFICACY

Time: 16:30 – 18:00

Location: Session Room 9

Session Type: Oral Abstract Session

THE NEGLECTED EPIDEMIC: CAN WE GET TO ZERO WITHOUT DRUG POLICY REFORM?

Time: 18:15 – 19:30

Location: Harm Reduction &
Drug Policy Networking Zone

Session Type: Special Event

Harm Reduction Coalition, the International Centre for Science in Drug Policy and International Doctors for Healthy Drug Policies invite you to a special reception with esteemed host Stephen Lewis. Hors d'oeuvres & drinks will be provided. For more information and to RSVP contact rugama@harmreduction.org.

TUESDAY, JULY 24

DRUG USER OWNED AND OPERATED

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Location: Global Village Session Room 1

Session Type: Symposia Session

STORY GLEANERS: DRUG POLICY, DIGITAL STORYTELLING AND HIV

Time: 11:00 – 12:00

Location: Global Village Screening Room

Session Type: Screening

BUILDING A REGIONAL MOVEMENT FOR DRUG POLICY REFORM

Time: 13:30 – 14:10

Location: Latino Caribbean Diaspora Networking Zone

Session Type: English/Spanish Roundtable

After 40 years of drug prohibition, the need for alternative drug policies seems more and more evident. This session will discuss the genesis of a regional movement advocating for drug policy reform and will address the need to implement more humane and comprehensive drug policies. Objective: To discuss the need to strengthen the regional movement on drug use, HIV and human rights, particularly in terms of national drug policies and international drug policy reform.

Moderator: Lisa Sanchez, Espolea, Mexico

Presenters: Ann Fordham, executive director at IDPC, UK; Anistla Rugama, Special Projects Coordinator at HRC, USA; Andrea Domanico, LANPUD Representative, Brazil, Donald MacPherson, Director at Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, Canada.

DRUGS, SEX AND HIV

Time: 13:00 – 14:00

Location: Mini Room 10

Session Type: Oral Poster Discussion Session

WORKING WITH ACTIVE DRUG USERS: THE BASICS FOR COMMUNITY PROVIDERS

Time: 14:30 – 18:00

Location: Mini Room 3

Session Type: Community Skills Development

People who use drugs comprise a large proportion of people at risk of HIV and in need of HIV care. Drug users face many challenges in obtaining medical care, including the demands of addiction and the stigma surrounding drug use. Health care professionals often have little experience with this population and share the same stigmatizing beliefs about drug users as the general public. When total abstinence is not achieved, medical providers may feel helpless and unable to provide meaningful services. This workshop will offer an overview of the issues facing drug users. Adherence to medications among drug users will be examined. HIV medication interaction with commonly used drugs will be addressed. Interventions for non-abstinent drug users will be discussed, including syringe access, overdose prevention and opioid maintenance treatment. Participants will address the problem of stigma and learn how to adapt the workshop's content to their settings.

Facilitators: Sharon Stancliff, United States; Narelle Ellendon, United States

LIVING HARM REDUCTION: LESSONS LEARNED FROM 3 CONTINENTS

Time: 16:30 – 18:00

Location: Harm Reduction &
Drug Policy Networking Zone
Session Type: Panel Discussion

Harm reduction interventions can be readily adapted to diverse national contexts for an effective response to HIV epidemics among people who use drugs. The Community Action on Harm Reduction project draws on experiences from Western Europe and Ukraine to support the development of harm reduction initiatives in India, China, Kenya, Indonesia and Malaysia. This session will give an overview of this unique and ambitious project with presentations on the baseline research data on drug use patterns and services in the five project countries, the policy and legislative barriers faced, project challenges and recent achievements.

Presenters: Tanya Deshko, Associate Director: Field Programmes / CAHR Programme Director, International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine; Olga Varetska, Associate Director: Strategic information and M&E, International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine; Ann Fordham, Executive Director, International Drug Policy Consortium, UK; Charanjit Sharma, Programme Manager: Drug Use & Harm Reduction, India HIV/AIDS Alliance; Pavlo Smyrnov, Deputy Executive Director / Director Programmes, International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine.

HIV AND HEPATITIS CO-INFECTION: EMERGING INSIGHTS

Time: 16:30 – 18:00

Location: Session Room 8
Session Type: Oral Abstract Session

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

NON-INJECTABLE DRUG USE AND HARM REDUCTION STRATEGIES FOR LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Time: 10:30 – 11:10

Location: Latino Caribbean Diaspora Networking Zone

Session Type: English/Spanish Roundtable

Objective: To discuss what harm reduction means in the region as most countries have majority of non-injectable drug users. Should the HR approach be limited to Opiate Substitution Therapies and/or Needle and Syringe Exchange Programs?

Moderator: Pablo Cymerman, Intercambios, Argentina

Presenters: Graciela Touzé, director at Intercambios, Argentina; Brun González, Espolea, Mexico; Rafael Mazin, regional advisor at PAHO; Dan Werb, Senior Research Assistant at BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, Canada; Carlos Rodríguez, Caribbean representative.

WHY THE HIV/AIDS COMMUNITY SHOULD SUPPORT THE DECRIMINALIZATION OF DRUG USE: CRIMINALIZE HATE NOT HIV

Time: 11:00 – 12:00

Location: Harm Reduction & Drug Policy Networking Zone

Session Type: Panel Presentation

The criminalization of people who use drugs has been a central pillar of illicit drug control around the world for decades. This punitive approach has

come under increasing scrutiny at local and international levels as a structural risk factor for HIV transmission, as the threat of criminal penalties and police harassment drives injecting drug use into unhygienic unsupervised marginal environments, and as prison populations' increase. This session will draw on learning from the Global Commission on HIV and the Law, and on the experiences of both people who use drugs and law enforcement. It will make the case that the entire HIV/AIDS community should support people who use drugs and growing calls for decriminalization.

Chair: Prasada Rao, UNAIDS

Presenters: Mandeep Dahaliwal, UNDP/ Global Commission on HIV and the Law; Alexei Kurmanaevskii, INPUD board member, Russia; Lasha Gogvadze, IFRC.

YOUNG PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS, HARM REDUCTION AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Location: Global Village Session Room 1

Session Type: Symposia Session

CREATIVE STRATEGIES FOR PROVISION OF AND INCREASING ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR PLHIV

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Location: Session Room 6

Session Type: Symposia Session

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

INDIGENIZING HARM REDUCTION: PERSPECTIVES ON HARM REDUCTION AND HIV WITH INDIGENOUS YOUTH AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN THE SEX TRADE

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Location: Youth Pavilion

Session Type: Global Village Workshop

RETURNING HOME

Time: 12:25 – 13:40

Location: Global Village Screening Room

Session Type: Screening

HARM REDUCTION PROGRAMS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Time: 13:00 – 14:00

Location: Harm Reduction &
Drug Policy Networking Zone

Session Type: Panel Presentation

Between 2007 and 2010 Washington DC experienced a 72% decrease in the number of newly-diagnosed HIV cases attributable to injection drug use. The Department of Health attributes this to the expansion of syringe exchange within the District. This session highlights the work of the people who made this happen. Speakers from syringe exchange programs will present on their work and the session will be chaired by Dr. Gregory Pappas, Director, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Administration, DC Department of Health.

SUPPORTING BETTER SEX WORK PROGRAMS

Time: 13:00 – 14:00

Location: Mini Room 4

Session Type: Oral Poster Discussion
Session

UNITED STATES IN FOCUS

Time: 14:30 – 15:30

Location: Harm Reduction &
Drug Policy Networking Zone

Session Type: HCLU Film Screening &
Discussion

"United States of Harm Reduction" and "Voices from the Margin: Drug User Activists in the US" In November 2011 the HCLU video advocacy team asked many activists, outreach workers and service providers who attended the 8th National Harm Reduction Conference in Austin, Texas what harm reduction means to them. The movie was made right after the federal ban on the funding of needle and syringe programs was lifted – but what is the situation now, after the ban has been restored? To challenge stigma and discrimination and other harms of the drug war, drug users all over the world form user groups, they promote harm reduction programs, they fight for better health and social care, and they negotiate peace with the authorities. Our second film is about them.

Discussion participants: Allan Clear, Director of the Harm Reduction Coalition, USA; Bobby Tolbert, VOCAL, New York, USA; Louis Jones, Users United, USA; Mark Kinzly Harm Reduction Coalition, USA.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

GLOBAL STATE OF HARM REDUCTION 2012 LAUNCH

Time: 16:30 – 18:30

Location: Harm Reduction &
Drug Policy Networking Zone

Harm Reduction International will launch the 2012 GSHR which includes region-by-region updates of key developments in harm reduction since their last global state report. This event will be followed by a reception.

THURSDAY, JULY 26

THE OVERLAP OF HIV, KEY POPULATIONS AND PSYCHO-STIMULANT DRUGS

Time: 07:00 – 08:30

Location: Mini Room 4

Session Type: Non-Commercial Satellite

DYNAMICS OF THE EPIDEMIC IN CONTEXT

Time: 08:40 – 10:30

Location: Session Room 1

Session Type: Plenary Session

- Turning the tide for MSM and HIV
Speaker: P. Semugoma, Uganda
- Cannot turn the tide without us: HIV epidemics amongst key affected populations (public health, human rights and harm reduction)
Speaker: C. Overs, Australia
- Making Waves – The changing tide of HIV and drug use
Speaker: D. McMillan, United States
- Expanding Testing and Treatment
Speaker: G. Hirschall, Switzerland

YOUNG PEOPLE AND INJECTING DRUG USE: OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO HIV PREVENTION AND HARMONIZING NATIONAL LAWS WITH THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Location: Session Room 4

Session Type: Symposia Session

U.S. DRUG POLICY AND ITS IMPACT ON HIV RESPONSE

Time: 13:00 – 14:00

Location: Human Rights

Networking Zone

Session Type: Panel Discussion

Whether through the reimposition of the ban on federal funding for needle and syringe programs, collaboration with the Russian government on a joint program for drug eradication, or investment in “treatment” programs that offer little but incarceration in Southeast Asia, the US government’s drug policies shape the course of the HIV epidemic for millions of individuals. Speakers in this session will highlight the HIV impacts of US drug policy across the world, highlighting the costs of current policies and directions for positive change.

THE NIGHTMARE THAT IS RUSSIA

Time: 14:30 – 15:30

Location: Harm Reduction &

Drug Policy Networking Zone

Session Type: HCLU Film Screening & Discussion

“Giving Hope” and “The Disproved Accusations of the Russian Drug Czar”
There is only one NGO in Moscow that provides clean needles and non-judgmental help for young drug users – the Andrey Rylkov Foundation. The Foundation does not get any funding from the government for their HIV prevention; what is more, the authorities banned its website for spreading drug propaganda – that is, initiating discussion on opiate substitution treatment, an evidence-based form of treatment that is supported by all UN agencies. The two films are about the Andrey Rylkov Foundation and their struggle with the authorities.

Discussion participants: Anya Sarang, director of the Andrey Rylkov Foundation, Russia.

EMPOWERMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE SEX TRADE: BEST PRACTICES FOR HIV PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

Time: 15:00 – 16:30

Location: Youth Pavilion

Session Type: Panel Discussion

THURSDAY, JULY 26

EVIDENCE-BASED PREVENTION FOR INJECTING DRUG USERS: IT WORKS!

Time: 16:30 – 18:00

Location: Session Room 4

Session Type: Oral Abstract Session

AIDS ACTIVISM TODAY: REIGNITING THE SPARK

Time: 16:30 – 18:00

Location: Session Room 8

Session Type: Bridging Session

NOTES

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