



WECOSS Annual Report 2023 & ONP Statistics

Eric Nadalin
May 16, 2024



WECOSS Background

- The Windsor-Essex Community Opioid and Substance Strategy (WECOSS) has been formalized as a partnership since 2018.
- Collaboration of community partners brought together to address the drug poisoning crisis.
- Annual Reports highlight the work being done to address substance use in the community through the collaborative efforts of WECOSS partners.
- The WECHU serves as the structural “backbone” organization which maintains the partnership.

2023 WECOSS Outputs and Accomplishments

Foundational	Treatment & Recovery	Harm Reduction	Prevention & Education	Enforcement & Justice
<p><u>Opioid and Substance Use Notification System (OSUNS)</u></p> <p>Eight Community Alerts issued in response to spikes in EMS and ED identified overdoses.</p> <p>Alerts increase awareness of local substance use trends (90%)</p> <p>Alert information relevant to local needs (87%)</p> <p>Alerts used within context of member’s work (71%)</p>	<p><u>Online Treatment Inventory</u></p> <p>187 substance use and mental health programs and services developed.</p> <p>“Beta” version of online treatment inventory developed and in testing.</p> <p>Funding obtained for planned release of inventory in 2024.</p>	<p><u>Needle Syringe Program</u></p> <p>533,844 needles distributed</p> <p>155kg of used needles collected.</p> <p><u>SafePoint Community Engagement</u></p> <p>20 Public Tours</p> <p>95 Attendees at Community Open Houses</p> <p>1.9K views of virtual site tour online video</p>	<p><u>Medication Return Program</u></p> <p>17+ lbs of unused/expired medication collected for safe disposal</p> <p><u>Consistent Communication Framework</u></p> <p>Communication toolkit created for shared strategy for overdose and substance use prevention messaging.</p>	<p><u>Understanding Stigma in Justice Sector</u></p> <p>21 service providers across 12 community agencies participating.</p> <p>100% use inclusive and person-first language.</p> <p>100% use trauma-informed approaches with clients.</p> <p>90% are confident in developing positive relationships with clients.</p> <p>Training needs determined for 2024 education sessions.</p>

Ontario Naloxone Program

- Naloxone is a fast-acting medication that can temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.
- The WECHU operates the local Ontario Naloxone Program (ONP) to distribute naloxone kits to eligible community organizations.
- Responsible for:
 - Recruitment of eligible agencies
 - Staff training
 - Ordering/delivery of kits
 - Data collection and reporting



2023 Outputs and Distribution

26 Total Community Partners Recruited

1,106 individuals trained to administer Naloxone

1,487 Naloxone Kits Distributed

- **7 new partners** onboarded in 2023

- Essex Fire & Rescue
- Erie Shores HealthCare Emergency Department
- CMHA Youth Wellness Hub
- CMHA Safe Beds Program
- Community Living Windsor
- Family Services Windsor-Essex County Homelessness Hub
- Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare ACT Program

- **43 instances** where emergency service providers (Police, Fire, EMS) administered this Naloxone as part of their response



Additional Activities by ONP Team 2023

Fentanyl Test Strip Distribution

- **292** fentanyl test strips distributed
- **53** unique clients
- **4** returning clients
- **43** instances where clients reported a change in their consumption activities as a result of participation

Supporting Pharmacy Naloxone Distribution

- **42** local pharmacies surveyed to identify promotional needs