



Windsor-Essex County Health Unit Board of Health

INFORMATION REPORT

Prepared By: Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention
Date: September 21, 2023
Subject: July 2023 – Monthly SafePoint Site Operations Update

BACKGROUND

Overview

- SafePoint officially opened on Wednesday, April 26th, 2023, serving clients 7 days per week between the hours of 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. daily.
- In order to ensure transparency related to SafePoint operations, the Board of Health will be provided with regular updates.

Application Status

- On July 21st, 2023, the WECHU received a letter from the federal government authorizing the requested Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) exemption.
- The SCS exemption granted by Health Canada has since been shared with the Ontario Ministry of Health, and in doing so, the WECHU confirmed with the provincial Ministry of Health that there are no elements outstanding in its application to operate a fully funded Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) site.
- As it stands, the Ministry of Health application for CTS funding remains under review.

CURRENT INITIATIVES

Operational Data

It has been three months since SafePoint opened on April 26th and there have been **288 client visits amongst 93 unique client visits**, with **no overdoses reported on-site to date**. Additional details about the services provided at SafePoint during the month of July are presented in Tables 1-3.

Table 1. Brief overview of unique clients at SafePoint over the period of **July 1st to July 31st**.

Total Unique Clients: 30		
Demographic		Number of Unique Clients
Age	Under 25	3
	25-64	25
	Unknown	2
Gender	Man	23
	Woman	6
	Gender not listed	1

Race	White	20
	Indigenous	2
	Arabic	2
	Latin American/Hispanic	3
	South East Asian	2
	Declined to answer	1

Table 2. Brief overview of client visits at SafePoint over the period of **July 1st to 31st**, 2023.

Total Number of Client Visits: 114		
Indicator		Number of Visits
Visit by Time of Day	10:00 – 11:59 a.m.	32
	12:00 – 2:59 p.m.	50
	3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	32
Type of Visit	Consumption	38
	Other	76
Consumption Visits by Substances Reported	Crystal methamphetamine	25
	Morphine	1
	Benzodiazepines	1
	Fentanyl	10
	Ritalin	1
Consumption Visits by Method of Consumption	Injection	38

Table 3. Brief overview of other services provided at SafePoint over the period of **July 1st to July 31st**, 2023.

Total Number of Client Visits: 114			
Indicator		Number of Times Service Offered	
Drug Checking	On-site fentanyl drug checking	2	
Basic Care	First aid	4	
	Wound/abscess	10	
	Foot care	6	
Wraparound Services		<i>On-Site</i>	<i>Referral</i>
	Addictions treatment	-	9
	Mental health	-	6
	Primary care	15	11
	Social services	6	9

Client Experience Narrative

Beyond the number of client visits recorded in the month of **July**, SafePoint continues to demonstrate that the services being offered are having a positive impact on clients, as highlighted through the following client experience narrative:

Anonymous Client #1

SafePoint security staff witnessed a person using a substance in the area surrounding SafePoint and encouraged them to access the site. The person was informed that if they entered the site that the nursing staff would monitor them to reduce their risk of harm. After staff educated the client about the services available on site, the client agreed to remain inside and be monitored. The client was able to be monitored under the supervision of medically trained staff and was provided the option to access wraparound services.

FUTURE PLANS

- As part of SafePoint's continued commitment to community engagement, the WECHU will work closely with the SafePoint Advisory Committee members, including the Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association (DWBIA), to expand efforts in offering support to surrounding businesses and address concerns related to the site's operations. A "SafePoint Toolkit" will be distributed as part of active outreach to area businesses, which contains resources that outline services offered at SafePoint, who to contact if a business-related concern is identified, and other supports made available to businesses as the site operates.
- Since opening, SafePoint staff have attended 6 community events where resources and information about SafePoint have been shared. This has led to connections with various community partners for client referrals.
- SafePoint has continued in its efforts to expand the wraparound services available on-site. The Recovery Education for Addictions and Complex Trauma (RE/ACT) team will now be on-site every Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. to support clients through their holistic substance use recovery program. The program focuses on the numerous ways in which trauma shapes people's lives, thought patterns, behaviours, and health. To view the full wraparound service schedule for the site, please visit the WECOSS webpage: [Consumption and Treatment Services Site](#).