

2023 HIV and Hepatitis Prevention Program Snapshot Harm Reduction Supply Distribution

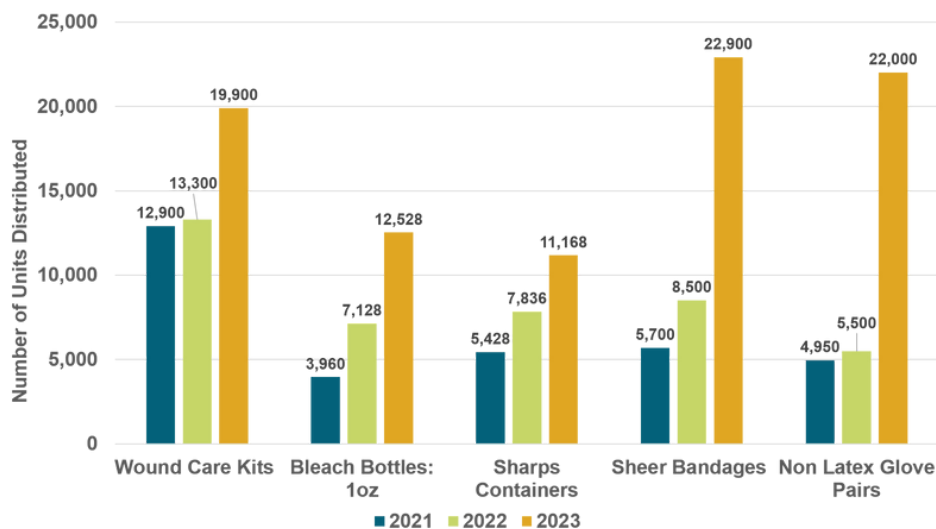
The HIV and Hepatitis Prevention Program partners with the Bureau of Substance Use, Treatment, and Recovery to support distribution of harm reduction supplies to people who inject drugs (PWID) in Iowa.

A total of 55 organizations utilized the system in 2023, a 30.95% increase from 2022.

Supplies provided through this system are intended to minimize the potential for transmission of HIV and viral hepatitis, prevent injection site bacterial and fungal complications, allow for safe storage and disposal of used injecting equipment, and support wound care.

No materials considered to be drug paraphernalia are supplied.

Statewide Supply Distribution 2021 - 2023



In addition to the supplies displayed, 131,000 alcohol prep pads were distributed to support injection site sanitization.

Description of Provided Supplies



Wound Care Kits: Kits containing gloves, gauze pads, bandages, antibiotic ointment, and ibuprofen are intended to minimize the risk of medical complications related to injecting drugs. Specifically, these items can help reduce the risk of bacterial and fungal complications such as necrotizing fasciitis, bacteremia, endocarditis, tetanus, wound botulism, and abscesses.

Bleach: It is recommended that PWID always use new sterile syringes when injecting. In the event that new materials are not readily available, disinfecting equipment with bleach can greatly reduce the risk of HIV and viral hepatitis.

Sharps Containers: Safe disposal of used injecting supplies reduces the number of used syringes that are improperly disposed of in the community. Proper disposal ensures that others are not exposed to used equipment, thus preventing potential infections. **Fit Packs** are small and transportable sharps containers that support safe storage and disposal for those who do not have immediate access to traditional sharps containers.