



Health Through Harm Reduction

Cariann Dunn RN, BScN, BA
Clinical Instructor

Safeworks Harm Reduction Program
Outreach & Supervised Consumption

Overview

- Safeworks Harm Reduction Program
- Harm Reduction Principles
- Update on drug trends and emerging issues
- Harm reduction in our community:
Operationalizing Safeworks Supervised
Consumption Services
- Supervised Consumption by the numbers

Safeworks Services



“Harm reduction is grounded in **justice and human rights** - it focuses on positive change and on working with people without judgement, coercion, discrimination, or requiring that they stop using drugs as a precondition of support.”

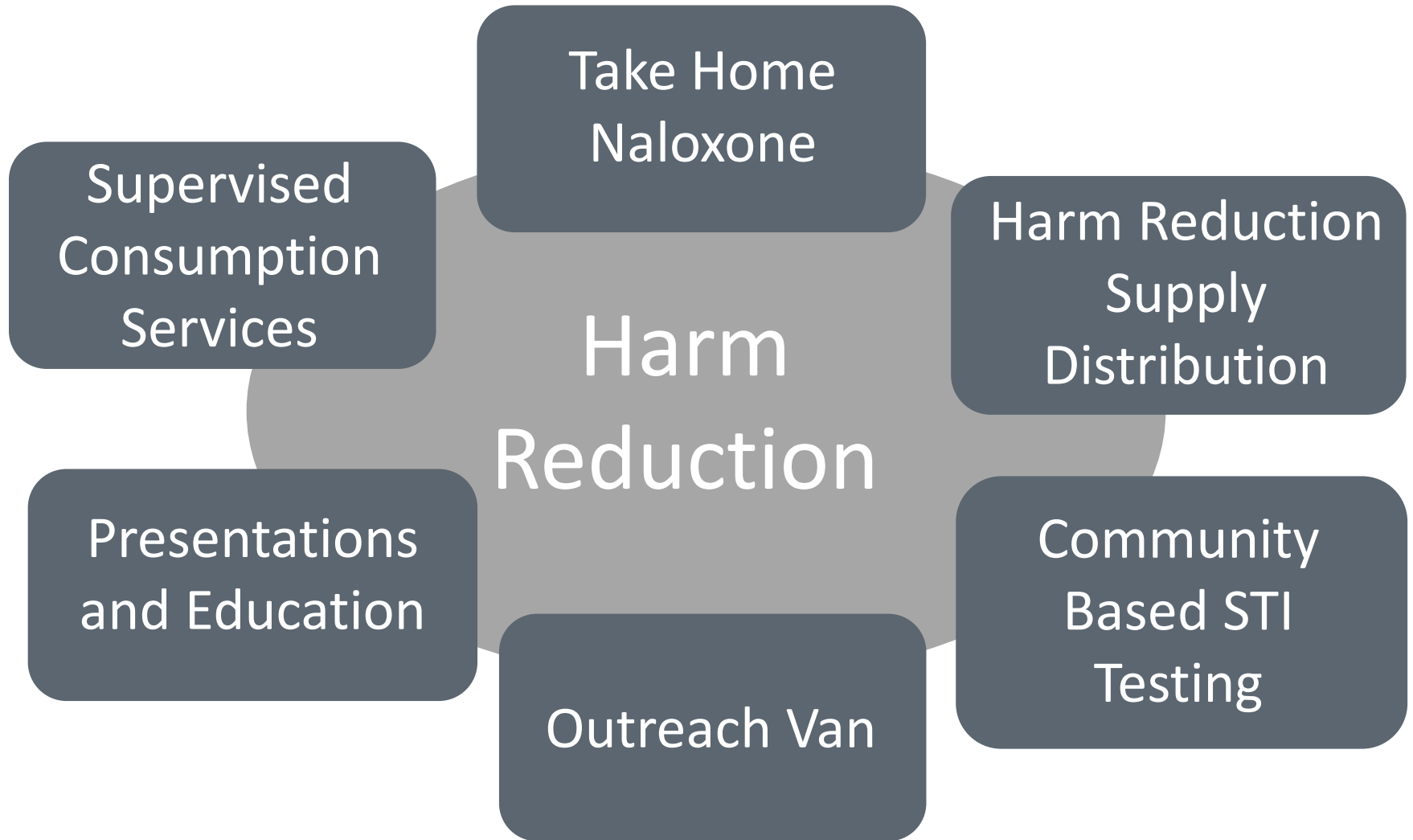


hrinews



HARM REDUCTION
INTERNATIONAL
www.hri.global

Safeworks Services

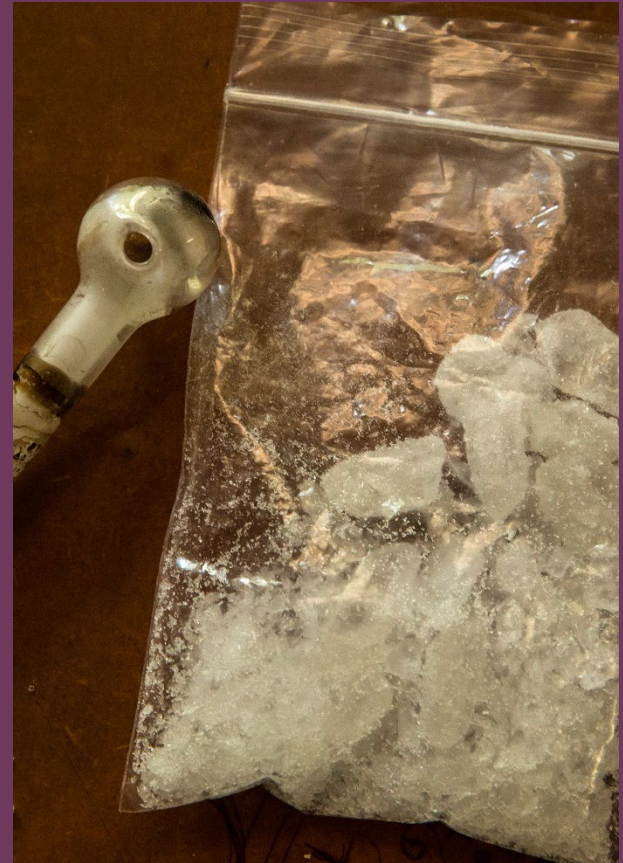


Drug Trends in Alberta:

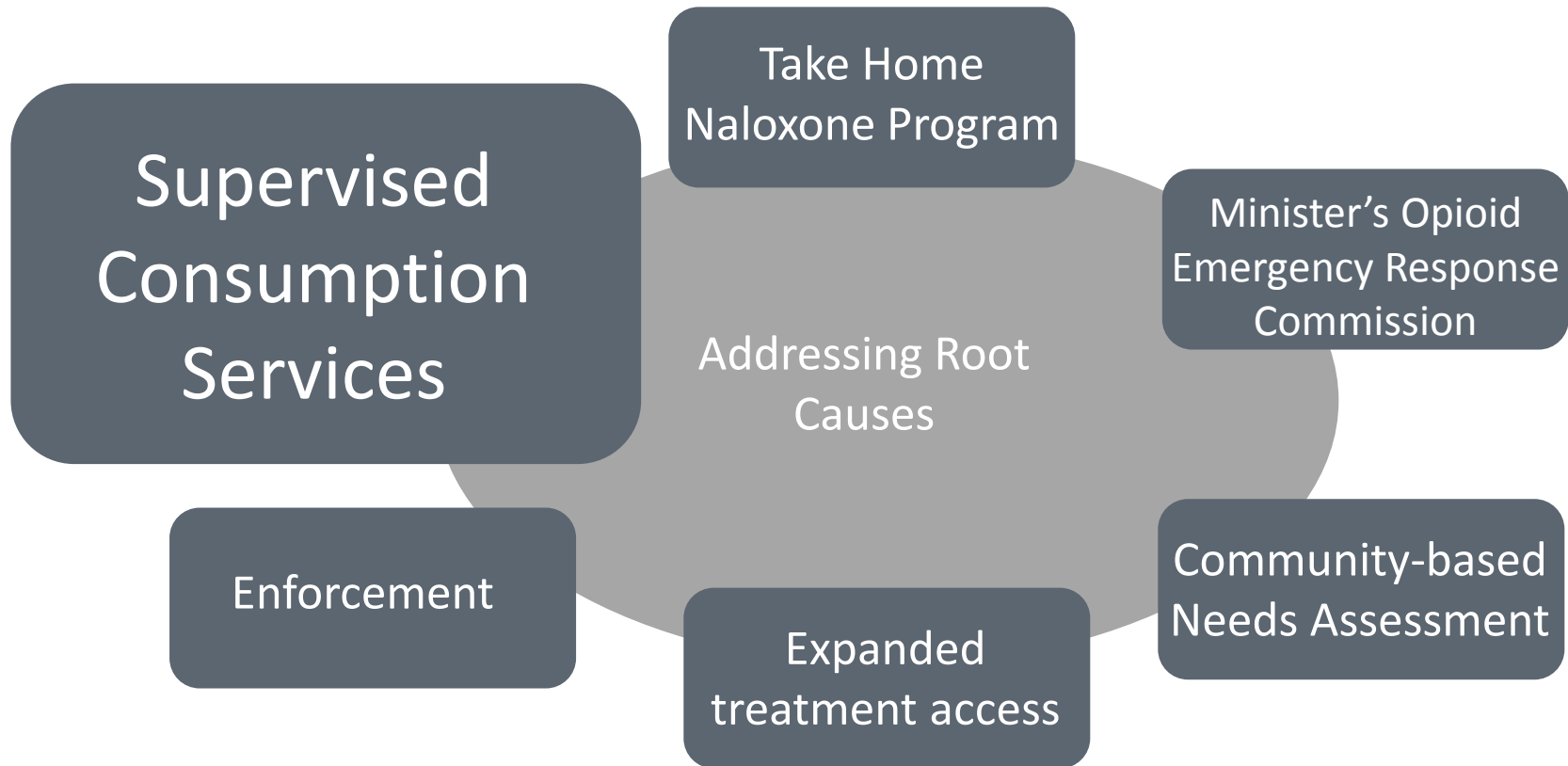
Methamphetamine

Dyskinetic overdoses

Benzodiazepines in opioids



Response to the Opioid Overdose Crisis





Supervised Consumption Services

Supervised consumption services (SCS) are a place where people can use pre-obtained drugs in a monitored, hygienic environment to reduce harm from substance use while offering additional services such as counselling, social work, and harm reduction education.

<https://www.phs.ca/project/the-history-of-insite/>



Evidence from other jurisdictions

Evidence from other jurisdictions where supervised consumption services exist show:

- Improved treatment access
- Improved health outcomes for individuals using the service
- Reduced ambulance call outs, cost effective
- Improved public order
- <http://www.communityinsite.ca/science.html>

Calgary Drug User Health Survey

- Surveyed 370 people who use drugs
- Follow up individual interviews, focus groups with people who use drugs and service providers
- 39% identified as Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, Metis)

Supervised Consumption: A Report for Calgarians



Calgary Coalition on Supervised Consumption. Supervised Consumption: A Report for Calgarians. May, 2018



Calgary Drug User Health Survey

“

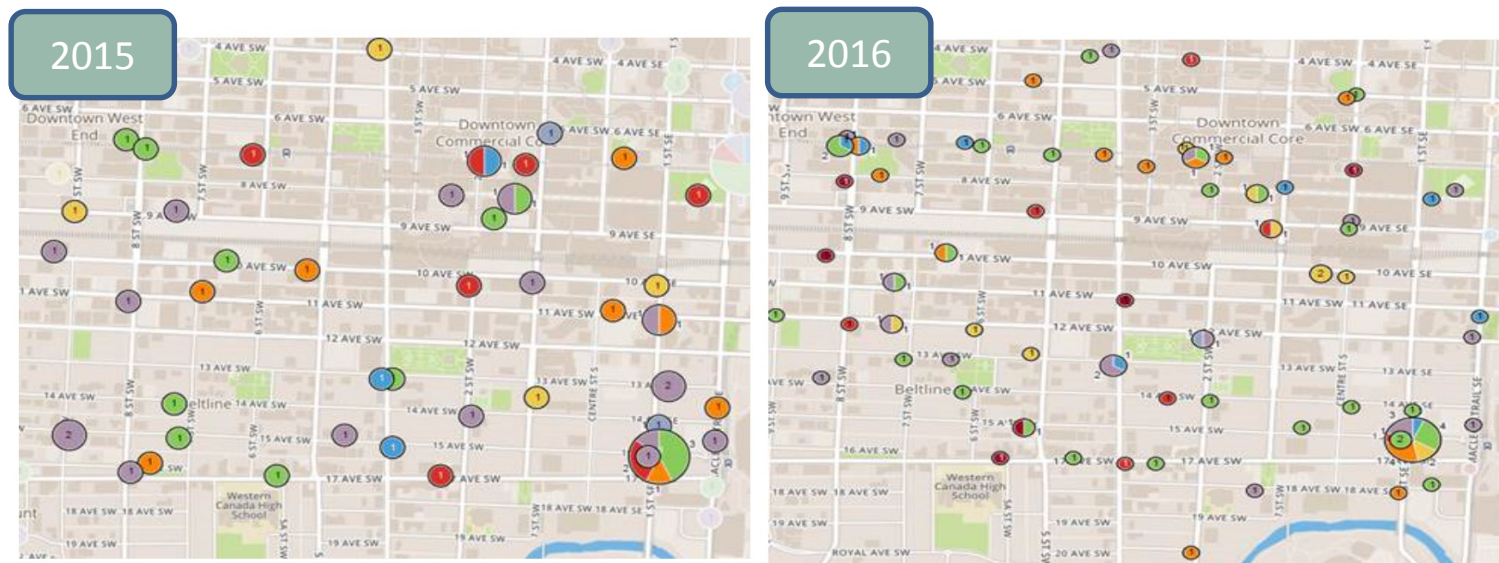
“I would like to be able to access services without being judged.”

“You need to be able to go there without being harassed or judged or you know just treated like you’re not human... you’re an addict but you’re not a human.”

“People that are able to be compassionate and you know help others without judging and stereotyping every person that comes through their door. So just people with... an understanding of addiction.”

- 33% use drugs 7 or more times per day
- 78% had used injection drugs alone
- 24% had overdosed within the last month
- 71% would access SCS at SMCHC

EMS responses within 1 km radius of Sheldon Chumir (12 Ave and 4 St), 2015 & 2016:



2015 → 2016

- 75% increase in the number of overdoses
- 108% increase in the amount of naloxone given
- The number of overdoses within 1km of SMCHC are 30 times greater than the rest of the city

The Sheldon Chumir and Safeworks

- Safeworks has been providing outreach services for 30 years
- Access to wrap-around care and other services
- Centrally located



Safeworks Supervised Consumption Site

24/7 – 365

Urban



Waiting Room

Greet & Check In



Consumption Room

HCP Monitor Drug Use



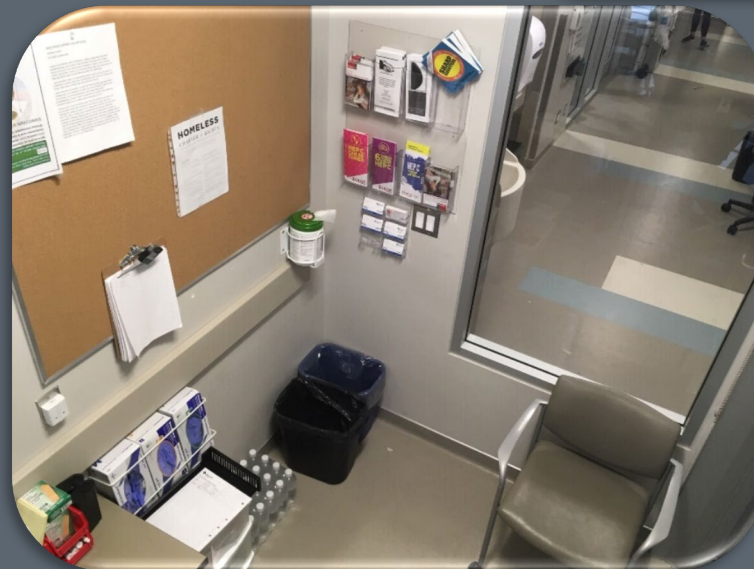
Post Consumption Room

Peer Support Worker



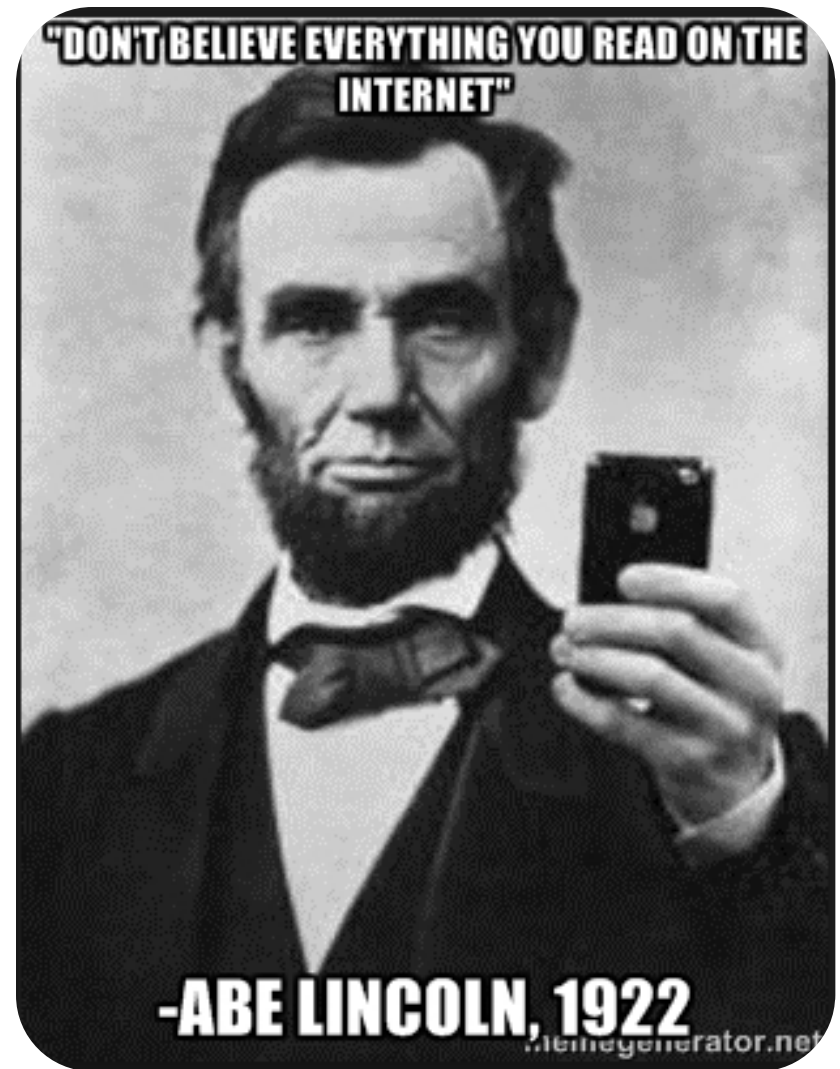
Consult Room

- ✓ Hygiene
- ✓ Food
- ✓ Coffee
- ✓ Harm Reduction Supplies
- ✓ Connection
- ✓ Referrals
- ✓ Professional Consults



Myth-Busting

- Drugs supplied on the internet
- Clients can buy drugs on site
- Staff can inject drugs for clients
- Having services like this keeps people “stuck” in their addiction

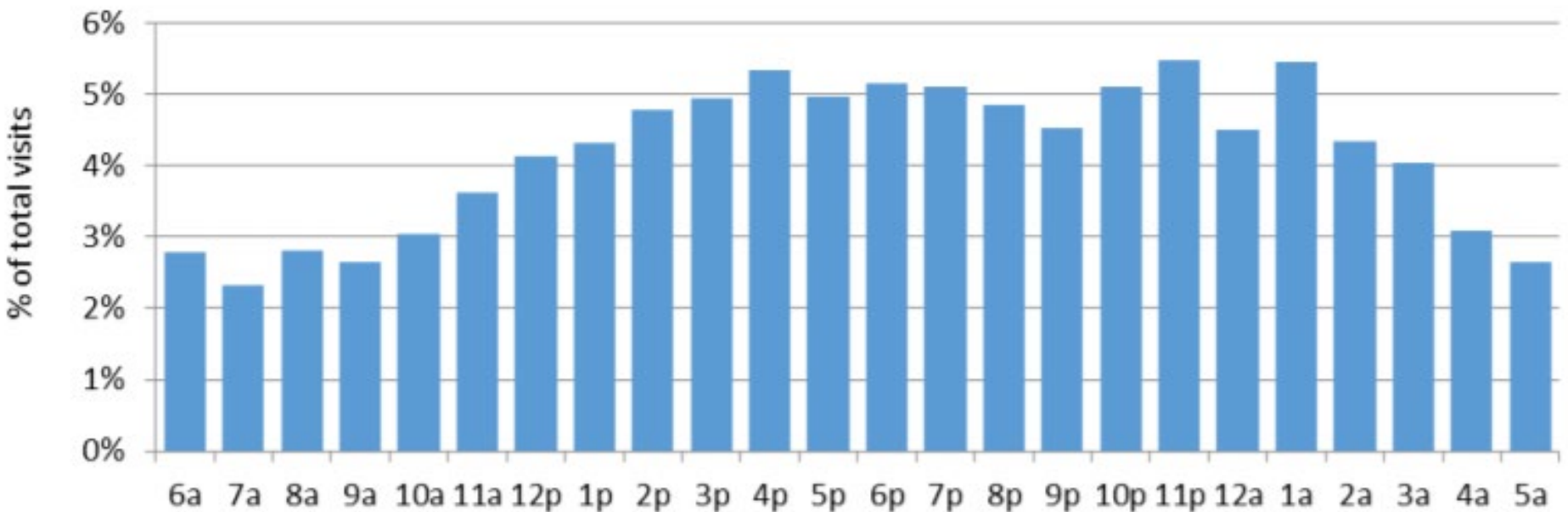


Average Number of Visits per Day

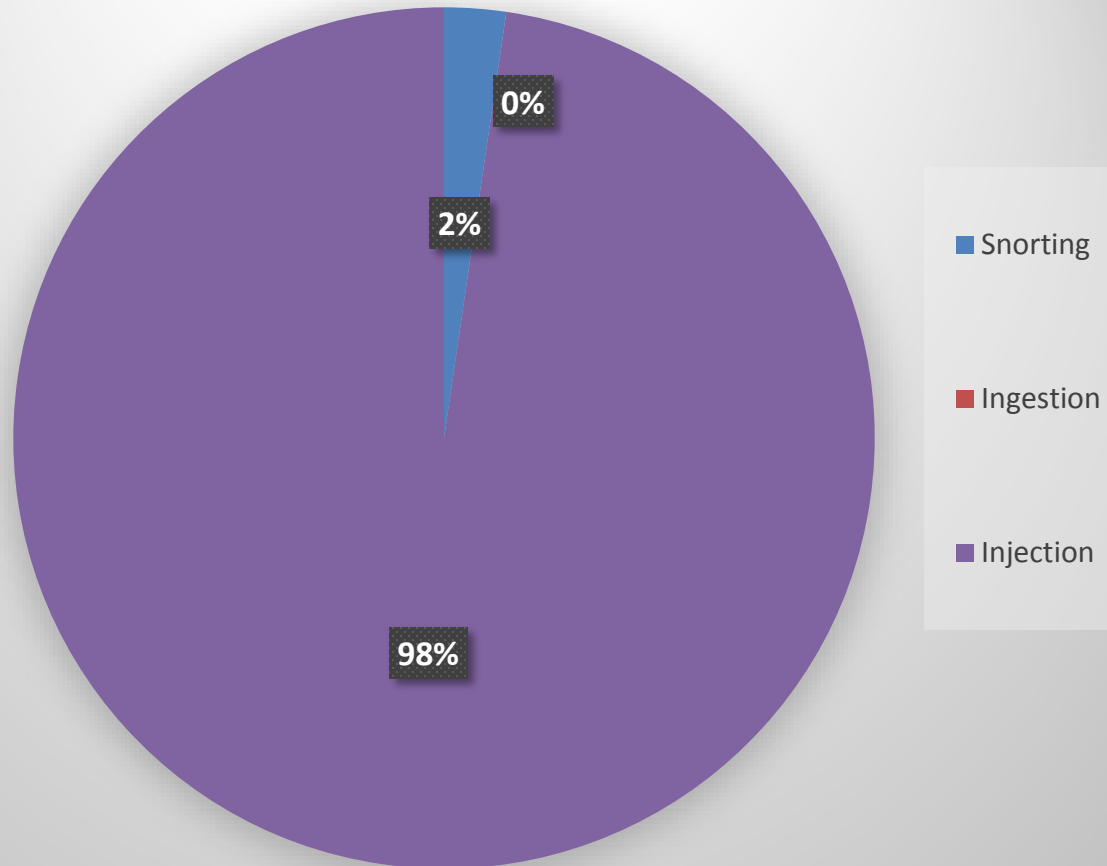


Time of Day: March 2019

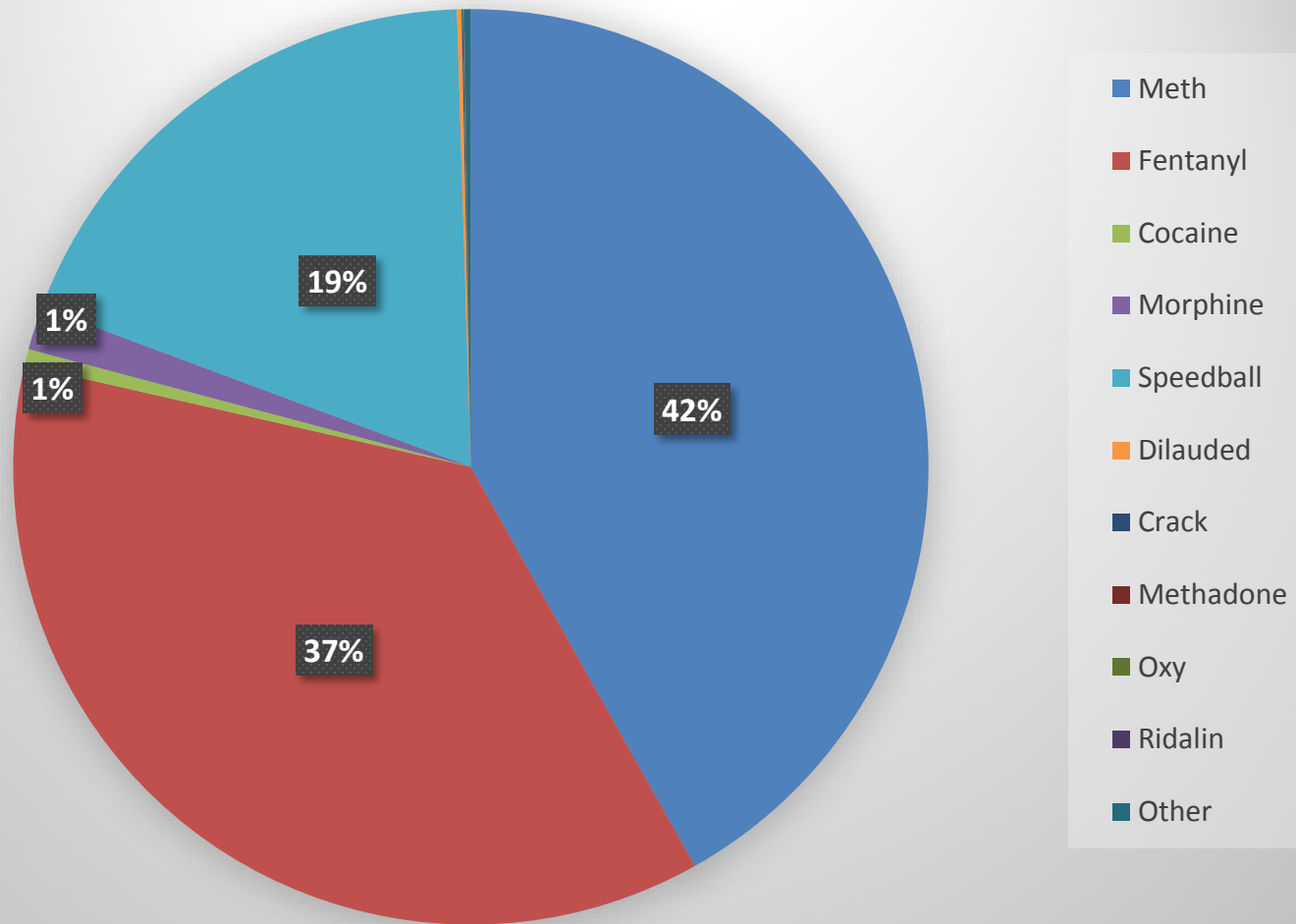
Popular visit times



Route of Use: March 2019



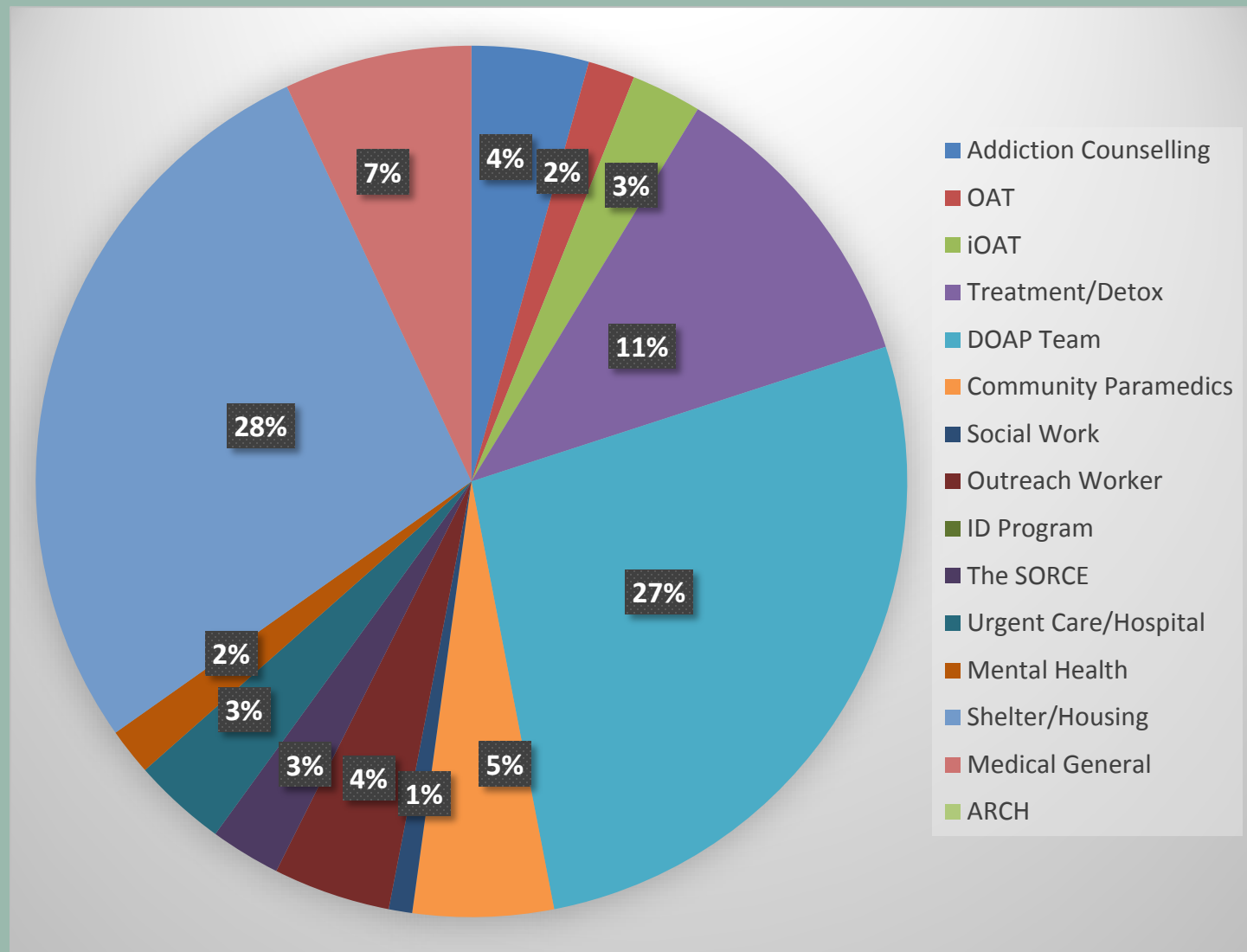
Drug Choice: March 2019



Visits & Overdoses by Month

Month	Number of client visits	Number of times drugs consumed	Number of Overdoses	Overdoses per number of times drugs consumed
October 30 – November 30, 2017	990	827	26	3.14%
December, 2017	1,561	1,281	29	2.26%
January, 2018	2,054	1,687	35	2.07%
February, 2018	2,281	2,003	29	1.45%
March, 2018	3,134	2,683	67	2.50%
April, 2018	3,425	2,867	44	1.53%
May, 2018	5,102	4,131	71	1.72%
June, 2018	4,327	3,545	78	2.20%
July, 2018	4151	3,295	67	2.03%
August, 2018	4332	3,571	59	1.65%
September, 2018	5065	4,162	89	2.14%
October, 2018	6,204	4,664	63	1.35%
November, 2018	5,858	4,745	62	1.31%
December, 2018	5989	5,033	52	1.03%
January, 2019	6060	4,936	60	1.22%
February, 2019	4950	3,877	70	1.81%
March, 2019	5,613	4,409	53	1.20%
Total	71096	53307	954	1.66%

Referrals: March 2019



Referrals

Safeworks SCS: 403-998-3380

Safeworks Outreach: 403-801-4453

Safeworks Van: 403-850-3755

safeworksharmreduction@ahs.ca



Questions?

cariann.dunn@ahs.ca

Safeworks Peer Support Worker

Raven Sinclair



Peer support changes lives.

References

HIV Community Link. (2018). Supervised Consumption: A Report for Calgarians. <https://www.hivcl.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Calgary-SCS-Public-Document.pdf>

CBC News Edmonton. (2018). Reports of crystal meth use triple among addictions clients, AHS says. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/crystal-meth-alberta-law-enforcement-1.4735248>

Alberta.ca. (2019). Opioid Reports. <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/amh/if-amh-sup-con-chumir-2019-03.pdf>