

#### PREVENTION OVERVIEW

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#### **ABOUT US**

SOOAR is an acronym for Strategies to Overcome Obstacles and Avoid Recidivism. We are a 501c3 nonprofit corporation and a licensed Community Awareness Information and Training (CAIT) Provider by the State of Michigan Department of Community Health Substance Abuse Division that provides prevention, life skills, harm reduction, and community mobilization services. We are proud of the many ways we remove barriers and improve the quality of life for participants and the community at large.

### Prevention defined

Prevention is the process of changing an individual's perceptions, thoughts, feeling and behavior(s) in a culturally sensitive manner to alter or stop the advent of continuance of some undesirable outcome(s)



## SOOAR PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Student Assistance Program/Expulsion diversion

Problem ID and Referral

Life Skills

Suicide prevention

## SOOAR PREVENTION PROGRAMS



Human Trafficking prevention

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE')

Harm reduction

Faith in Harm Reduction



Everyone deserves equal rights

# SOCIAL JUSTICE

SOOAR seeks to eradicate the stigmatization of people with lived experience of substance use, sex work, and other stigmatized lifestyles and behaviors.



Syringe Access/disposal

Distribution of other safe use supplies

SOOAR'S Harm REDUCTION SERVICES for PWUD INCLUDE:

Referrals to other services

Mental health

Physical health

Medication assisted treatment

Naloxone distribution and other safe use education

HIV and Hep C Rapid Testing (in process)

Faith in harm reduction services

## SOOAR HARM REDUCTION

#### Decriminalization and Community Partnerships

- City Of Inkster
- Van Buren Township

#### Preliminary discussions:

- City of Belleville
- City of Romulus



## FAITH AND HARM REDUCTION

Where faith and harm reduction meet to imagine the movement for justice with people who use drugs.

We are dedicated to building capacity and mobilizing communities at the intersection of harm reduction and faith-based organizing.





- During FY2022 October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023, SOOAR provided 73 registered participants and 251 people served through secondary distributors with various harm reduction interventions and supplies, through more than 110 encounters.
- SOOAR provided 35,040 syringes and safer injection supplies, 760 safer smoking bubble supplies, 1,521 safer smoking stem supplies (2,281 total), 353 safer snorting supplies and 4,315 external and 415 internal (4,730) condoms preventing the transmission of HIV/HEPC and other STI's as well as skin, soft tissue injury and endocarditis.



## UTILIZATION OF THE ARTS

- Independent film
- Media arts
- Poetry
- Story telling
- PSA
- Play

Stories are universal and create connections across time, place, and cultures. Now more than ever, we need stories to help us understand and connect to our fast-changing world. Impactful stories-- a film, or an oral story—have the power to bring us closer to something much greater than ourselves.





#### HOW CAN A SICK CHURCH SAVE A DYING WORLD?



#### BLACK MEN HEAL, SAY HOW YOU FEEL, BROTHER!

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## Thank you!

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