

Dear Distinguished Leaders,

My name is Dane Zahner

I am reaching out regarding some answers and solutions for SB -1573. I have worked doing Harm Reductions for 8 years in four rural counties.

In those eight years, I learned to help the community find sustainable solutions for syringe waste. These efforts have helped collect so far in the fiscal year 2026, 427,968 syringes.

The attached documents have data on disposals. I am also including some examples of some of our models. It takes community, community-based partners, and a lot of effort to drive solutions.

We partner with Cities, CCO, community-based partners, Parks Departments, and community members. The Hospitals willing to help destroy are one of the key factors in making these collection models successful. That partnership is a truly essential part of our model.

We offer a 24-hour response time in our community. We have office locations. Helping support pick up for discarded syringes. Offer training for agencies that may see these issues with their clients. Offering successful evidence-based programs that are successful in decreasing syringe waste.

The most important part is that we partner with our clients and provide education, and are honest. This is an exchange. We need your syringes returned, and we will provide you with new ones. Working with our clients internally and externally to ensure that syringe disposal is a process we do every time. We require the return of those syringes and offer sharps containers every time. These partnerships are why we have seen steady decreases in the communities we serve.

It truly takes a community to make the changes necessary to address this issue.

Data from Syringe Disposal locations:

25/26: 427,968 (1/2 year)

24/25: 739,235

23/24: 653,761

Syringes from Syringe Operations, including Outreach/Mobile

25/26: 334,281 (1/2 year)

24/25: 750,235

23/24: 835,452

Communities we help with disposal operations:

Grants Pass, Roseburg, Salem, Eugene, Coos Bay, North Bend, Sutherlin, Wolf Creek, Winston, Salem, and Glendale.

Communities we serve without drop boxes, but disposal through exchange:

Brookings, Gold Beach, Port Orford, Reedsport, Myrtle Creek, Cottage Grove, Florence, Oakridge, Drain, Cave Junction.

Sincerely,

Dane Zahner, he/him, HIV Alliance, Southern Prevention Manager

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