



# Alachua County Syringe Exchange Program Update

Community Support Services

October 24, 2023

# How We Got Here

- June 2019 - Florida Statute 381.0038 signed into law by the Governor
- September 2020 - BoCC Passed Local Ordinance 2020-20
- December 2020 – Fully Executed Letter of Agreement with DOH
- May 2021 – SOI Issued Requesting Proposals (check date)
- August 2021 - WellFlorida Selected as Operator
- February 2022 – WellFlorida Presentation to the BoCC
- September 2022 – Anticipated Start Up
- December 2022 - Viiv Funding Awarded
- March 2023 – Florida Harm Reduction Collective, Inc. Plans to Expand

# SB366: County Commission Responsibilities

**County commission** must contract with one of the following:

- Hospital
- Health care clinic
- Medical school in Florida
- Licensed addictions receiving facility
- 501(c)3 HIV/AIDS service organization

# Syringe Exchange Program Entity Responsibilities

| County Commission                                 | Syringe Exchange Program                      | Department of Health                                 |
|---|---|--|
| County Ordinance                                  | 1-to-1 exchange                               | Letter of Agreement with the County Commission       |
| Letter of Agreement with the Department of Health | HIV, viral hepatitis testing                  | Advice, consultation, recommendations (through CHDs) |
| Contract with exchange program                    | Counseling/referrals for drug abuse treatment | Annual exchange program data report                  |
|   | Naloxone kits                                 | Adopt Rules  |
|   | Educational materials                         |  |
|   | Data  |  |

# Initial Data Analysis and Findings

- Alachua County – Syringe Exchange Program Needs Assessment
  - Program Attributes:
    - 60% prefer a mobile unit, 40% prefer a fixed location
  - Most frequently suggested locations for mobile services:
    - GRACE (56.7%)
    - Downtown (43.3%)
    - Holly Heights (15.7%)
    - Various locations on or near Archer Road (approximately 20%)

# Initial Data Analysis and Findings

- Alachua County – Syringe Exchange Program Needs Assessment, continued
  - Most frequently suggested locations for fixed locations:
    - GRACE (43.3%)
    - Downtown (33.3%)
    - Locations on bus route or bus station (10%)
  - Trusted Organizations (five most mentioned):
    - Out of Harm's Reach (43.3%)
    - Health Department (23%)
    - GRACE (20%)
    - UF Mobile Clinic or Street Outreach (13.3%)
    - Hospital (10%)

# Next Presentations

- Florida Harm Reduction Collective
- Out of Harm's Reach