



## Clay County Health Department Harm Reduction Syringe Exchange Program

### Participant Rights and Responsibilities

At the Clay County Health Department (CCHD) we want to work together with you to make sure that you get the care, compassion and services you need. By understanding your rights and responsibilities, you can help us to help you.

#### AS A PARTICIPANT, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Be treated with respect and dignity, regardless of race, ethnicity, sex or gender expression, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, class, medical status, or physical or mental ability.
- Receive available services, supplies, information and education.
- Be respected and have the right to privacy. **Please do not bring any guests, such as other adults or children into the exchange room.** You will be asked to provide a unique identifier so that services can be tracked for reporting and funding accountability.
- Be provided confidential HIV and Hepatitis C testing at the needle exchange. You can request an appointment for other confidential services offered at CCHD.
- Declare to law enforcement that you are a participant in the program and possess syringes. Kentucky law states: "Prior to searching a person, a person's premises, or a person's vehicle, a peace officer may inquire as to the presence of needles or other sharp objects in the areas to be searched that may cut or puncture the officer and offer not to charge the person with possession of drug paraphernalia if the person declares to the officer the presence of the needle or other sharp object. If, in response to the offer, the person admits to the presence of the needle or other sharp object prior to the search, the person shall not be charged with prosecuted for possession of drug paraphernalia for the needle or sharp object or for possession of a controlled substance for residual or trace drug amounts present on the needle or sharp object." KRS218A.500 (6)(a).

#### AS A PARTICIPANT, YOU HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- Be responsible for the syringes you are given.
- Return used needles to the CCHD Needle Exchange in safe disposable containers.
- Treat staff and community members with courtesy and respect without physical, sexual, verbal and/or emotional abuse, threats or intimidation.
- Keep the area safe and refrain from any drug activity while at the Clay County Health Department.
- Refrain from any illegal activity while on the premises of the Clay County Health Department.
- Protect the confidentiality of other participants encountered while participating in the Needle Exchange.
- Take only what is needed and dispose of used materials and supplies properly.
- Clean up drug-related waste in the community and bring needles gathered off the street to the Needle Exchange.