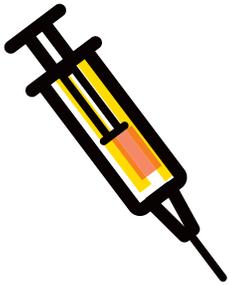
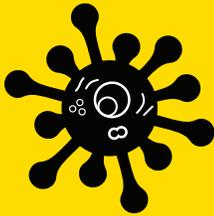


# SYRINGE SERVICE PROGRAMS



**Syringe service programs (SSPs)** are community-based programs that provide services to people who use (or inject) drugs. SSPs distribute sterile syringes, safer drug use equipment and safer sex supplies. SSPs also provide health education and street-based outreach, and offer health care services for people who may experience drug-related harms.

**SSPs prevent HIV and hepatitis C transmission.**



Since SSPs were established in New York City in 1993, the number of HIV and hepatitis C cases among people who inject drugs have drastically decreased. SSPs also prevent transmission of other infections.

**SSPs provide critical health services.**



**These include:**

- Safer drug use and sex education
- HIV and hepatitis C testing, counseling and referrals
- Buprenorphine treatment for opioid addiction
- Referrals to physical and mental health care

**SSP services are free and available to everyone.**



These programs are available to anyone in need of health and social services. SSPs conduct outreach and provide care to people who are not connected to traditional health care services.

**SSPs provide overdose education and naloxone.**



SSPs provide naloxone – a safe medicine that reverses the effects of an opioid overdose – and overdose prevention training to people at risk of overdose and those most likely to witness an overdose. Educating New Yorkers about overdose prevention helps reduce stigma and get naloxone to the people who need it most.