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# The Harm Reduction Program

Buffalo Columbus Hospital

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**SERVICES OFFERED:**

- HARM REDUCTION EDUCATION
- DRUG TREATMENT INFORMATION
- ASSISTANCE ACCESSING DRUG TREATMENT
- HIV/AIDS PREVENTION EDUCATION
- CONFIDENTIAL HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING
- HEALTH SCREENINGS FOR HIV, TB, AND STDs
- HARM REDUCTION MATERIALS: [CONDOMS, BLEACH, ALCOHOL WIPES, COTTON, COOKERS]
- REFRRALS FOR SOCIAL SERVICES
- REFERRALS FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT
- ONE-FOR-ONE EXCHANGE - STERILE SYRINGES FOR USED SYRINGES

**HOSPITAL SERVICES AVAIL-  
ABLE TO HARM REDUCTION  
PARTICIPANTS:**

DETOXIFICATION UNIT

HIV PRIMARY CARE  
(FEBRUARY 1994)

WOMEN'S HIV CLINIC  
(FEBRUARY 1994)

FAMILY MEDICINE UNIT

EMERGENCY ROOM

FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

DERMATOLOGY CLINIC

DENTAL CLINIC

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT DR. TERRY RUEFLI,  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**BUFFALO  
COLUMBUS  
HOSPITAL**

**THE HARM  
REDUCTION  
PROGRAM**

300 NIAGARA STREET  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK  
14201

(716)-842-0555

## **THE FACTS:**

IN NEW YORK STATE, INJECTION DRUG USE IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF AIDS AMONG MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN

AN ESTIMATED 50% OF NEW YORK'S 250,000 INJECTION DRUG USERS ARE ALREADY INFECTED WITH HIV

21,000 INJECTION DRUG USERS IN NEW YORK STATE HAVE AIDS

ON AVERAGE, IT COSTS \$110,000 TO TREAT A PERSON WITH AIDS

ALTHOUGH DRUG TREATMENT IS AN EFFECTIVE WAY TO STOP THE SPREAD OF AIDS, THERE ARE SIMPLY NOT ENOUGH TREATMENT SLOTS TO MEET THE DEMAND

IN WESTERN NEW YORK THERE ARE 7,000 HEAVY NARCOTIC USERS AND ONLY 2,000 TREATMENT SLOTS

THERE IS A THREE MONTH WAIT TO GET INTO A METHADONE TREATMENT PROGRAM

HARM REDUCTION PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN PROVEN TO STOP THE SPREAD OF AIDS AND KEEP PEOPLE HEALTHY UNTIL THEY CAN ACCESS DRUG TREATMENT

## **BUFFALO COLUMBUS HOSPITAL'S HARM REDUCTION PROGRAM IS:**

- ONE OF 40 HARM REDUCTION PROGRAMS IN NORTH AMERICA
- THE FIRST HOSPITAL BASED PROGRAM IN THE UNITED STATES
- APPROVED BY THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
- REGULATED BY THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
- FUNDED BY THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
- MONITORED BY A 30 MEMBER COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

PROGRAM SUPPLIES PROVIDED BY THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH

## **HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS:**

THE PROGRAM PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF HARM REDUCTION SERVICES TO INJECTION DRUG USERS

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, A PERSON MUST BE ABLE TO PROVE THEY ARE AN INJECTION DRUG USER

PARTICIPANTS MUST COMPLETE AN INTAKE INTERVIEW

PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM IS ANONYMOUS

EACH PARTICIPANT WILL BE ISSUED AN IDENTIFICATION CARD

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS ARE EXEMPT FROM PROSECUTION FOR POSSESSION OF HYPODERMIC SYRINGES

STERILE SYRINGES ARE EXCHANGED FOR DIRTY SYRINGES ON A ONE-FOR-ONE BASIS

PARTICIPANTS ARE PROHIBITED FROM SHARING, SELLING OR RENTING SYRINGES