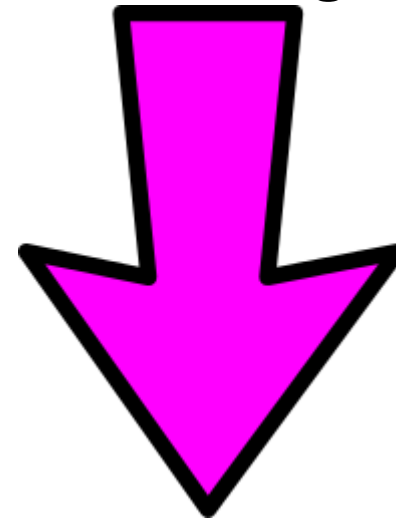
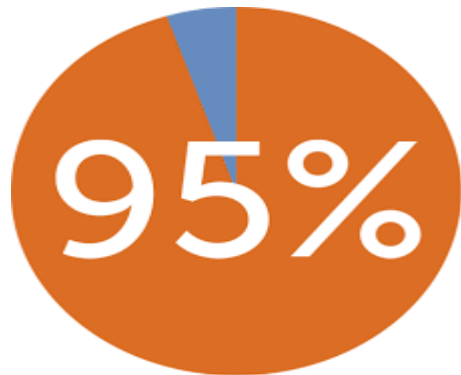


Scott County Indiana

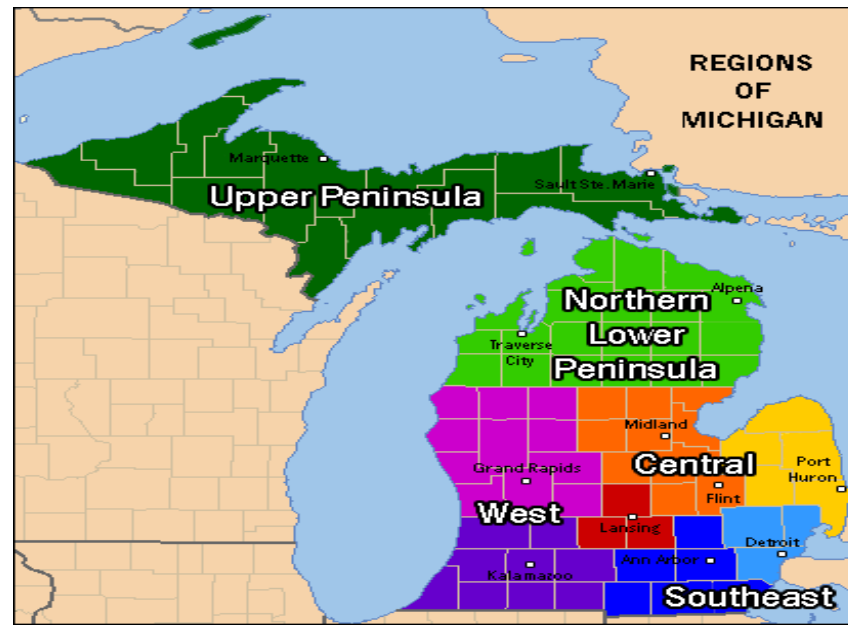
In 2015, a small rural community in southern Indiana (Scott County), with a population of 4,000 people was severely impacted by over 200 new HIV cases, which was attributed to the town's opioid drug use epidemic.



- Of the new cases, nearly 95% also had Hepatitis C.
- Typically, Scott County had fewer than five new cases of HIV annually before the outbreak.
- The impact on Scott County was so severe that it prompted Michigan to conduct a study, and that study identified specific rural areas in Michigan that would have a high likelihood of being impacted by a similar incident.



- The study revealed that there were 11 counties in Michigan that had a high likelihood of having a similar incident happen in their rural areas.
- Funding to implement SSPs (Syringe Service Programs) was offered to these rural areas



- To date, there are four agencies in Central and Northern Michigan that have accepted funding to start SSPs.
 - Central Michigan District Health Department, which serves Clare County, Gladwin County, Isabella County, Roscommon County, Arenac County, and Osceola County.
 - Chippewa Health Department; which serves all of Chippewa County
 - District Health Department #2, which serves Alcona County (Harrisville), Iosco County (Tawas) and Oscoda County (Mio).
 - Marquette Health Department, which serves Marquette County.
- These HD's received their funding in January 2018, and are in the beginning stages of implementing their programs.

- Data supports the fact that SSPs reduce drug use.
- People who inject drugs (PWID) are 5 times more likely to enter treatment for substance use disorder and more likely to reduce or stop injecting when they use an SSP.
- Based on existing evidence, the U.S. Surgeon General has determined that SSPs, when part of a comprehensive prevention strategy:
 - a. Can play a critical role in preventing HIV among persons who inject drugs (PWID);
 - b. Can facilitate entry into drug treatment and medical services;
 - c. Do not increase the unsafe illegal injection of drugs.

1. How did you go about getting your program started? What was that process like?
2. What kind of partnerships were involved in the process?
3. Can you describe some of the challenges you faced when implementing your program?
4. Please describe some of your successes you had when implementing your program?