Symposium

Phumzile Mchunu

Community-based harm reduction services: Eastern Cape,

[18 March 2024] Phase 2023b [July – December 2023]
Needle & syringe reach, by gender
Needle & syringe reach, by population group

Nelson Mandela Bay

- Black African: 3%
- Coloured: 29%
- Indian: 1%
- White: 1%
- Total reach: 1801

Total reach:
- 0%
- 20%
- 40%
- 60%
- 80%
- 100%

Reach %:
- 0
- 500
- 1000
- 1500
- 2000
Needle & syringe reach, by age
Needle & syringe distribution & return rate

Nelson Mandela Bay

- Distributed
- Returned
- Return rate
HIV testing & treatment cascade

Nelson Mandela Bay

- Tested: 269
- Newly diagnosed HIV+ve: 35 / 17 (13%)
- On ART: 33
- % HIV positive: 13%

HIV yield (%)
TB testing & treatment cascade

Nelson Mandela Bay

- Symptom screen: 474
- Symptomatic: 52
- Diagnosed: 17
- Started Rx: 17
- Completed Rx: 17

SACENDU
South African Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use

Treatment Demand Data ≠ Service Quality Measures (SQM)
≠ Community-Based Harm Reduction Services

saMRC
advancing life
Human rights violations

- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment
- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment and assaulted
- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment and arrested
- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment and personal photos taken without consent
- Confiscation / destruction of injecting equipment and medication taken
- Assaulted
- Falsely arrested

Nelson Mandela Bay
Mortality & overdose

4 reported deaths due to natural causes during this period
Issues & challenges

• Limited/no shelters accommodating people who are using drugs
• Stigma and discrimination in certain Departments
• Family reunification
• Inaccessibility to Methadone
• Lack of economic empowerment programs/Skills development programs
• Lack of access to parenting programs for people who are using drugs
• Human Rights violations
• Two attempted robberies at gun point in Sub A
Successes

- A successful women’s event supported by SANAC conducted to scale up sexual reproductive health services
- 21 clients assisted with accessing ID documents
- 15 Sensitization training conducted with organizations, facilities and the Police
- Employment of 2 Professional Nurses and 1 Psychosocial
- OST for 2024 in Nelson Mandela
Acknowledgements