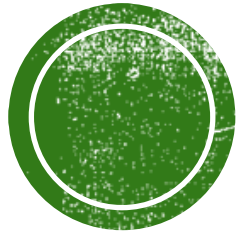




Donna Sarrazin RN

**Safer Supply
Project Lead**

In response to the ongoing toxic, illegal drug supply, *Safer Supply Ottawa* partners work to expand access to safer supply programming in the community.



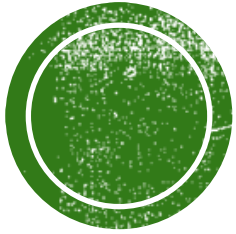
The Safer Supply pilot seeks to decrease the risk of accidental overdose and improve health by providing access to prescribed pharmaceutical opioids and further connect people who use drugs to integrated, wrap-around health, social and treatment services.

PARTNERS

- Ottawa Public Health
- Ottawa Inner City Health
- Sandy Hill CHC
- Somerset West CHC
- Recovery Care
- Respect RX

The Safer Supply Pilot

- 3 year Health Canada Initiative - July 2020 – March 2023
- Target – People who use drugs within Ottawa’s downtown core –focus on those who are dependent on the contaminated, toxic, illegal drug supply
- High level goals
 - Reduce overdose and other drug related harms
 - Introduce wrap around support services to improve the physical and mental health and well being of individuals
 - Reduce the risk taking behaviors among individuals with problematic substance use
 - Improve communities
- Epidemiology Team – The Ottawa Hospital
- Health Canada Accountability
 - Quarter project updates – Monthly project check ins
 - Ongoing data collection
 - Working group – bi weekly meeting to achieve workplan goals



The Safer Supply Program

- Prescribed pharmaceutical grade medications
 - Opioids (Hydromorphone, Fentanyl)
 - Stimulants (Methylphenidate –Biphentin/Ritalin)
- Daily dispensed – observed and unobserved
- Wrap around services
 - Addiction specialists
 - Primary Care providers
 - Mental Health (nursing, counselling, psychotherapy, social work)
 - Housing Workers
 - Nursing Case Management – Intensive Case Management
 - Outreach teams
 - Consumption space
 - Peer Workers/Harm Reduction support

“Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it.”

– Helen Keller

RESILIENT



Program Evaluation

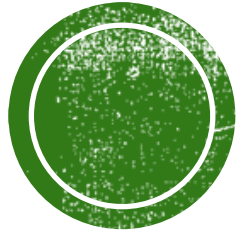


Report due 2023 –data collection and review ongoing

- Over 25 indicators being measured
 - # of supports/services in place
 - # of individuals accessing supports/services
 - Engaging in theft to support use of substances
 - Engaging in pan handling to support use of substances
 - Engaging in survival sex work to support use of substances
 - Use of consumption sites
 - Reduction in illicit drug use
 - Reduction in overdose



Pilot Status



- Fluid program – learning is ongoing
- 350 participants – 3 prescribing sites
- Epidemiology team actively working on reviewing year 1 data (new year)
- Working on creation of program to address fentanyl more directly
- Engagement with community partners for continuity of care creation
- Linkage to National Safer Supply partners for sharing, learning, creation, support
- Successes include:
 - Access to safer supply – anecdotal report of reduced overdoses
 - Remove from sex trade
 - Decreasing/stopping IV use – change to oral
 - Engagement in health services
 - Achieving housing, eviction prevention
 - Document supports OW/ODSP funding application, identification, food supports, emergency shelter
 - Growing prescribing partners and locations to support individual successes

- Challenges include
 - Need far beyond our progression to date – crisis moving faster than solutions
 - COVID pandemic on top of drug crisis
 - Infant program +++learning
 - Lack of providers

Questions?

**SafeR Supply
Ottawa**

