



Clallam County Board of Health

Agenda for August 18, 2026 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Clallam County Courthouse

Board of Commissioners Meeting Room 160

223 E. 4th Street, Port Angeles, WA 98362

Board of Health Meeting – Available in person or virtually:

- **Zoom (audio only):** Call +1 253-215-8782, Meeting ID **935 7343 5754**, Passcode **095863**
- **Zoom (video):** [Join here](#) with the same ID and Passcode
- **Live stream:** clallamcountywa.gov/meetings

Public comment/questions: Clerk of the Board 360-417-2276 or email

nan.furford@clallamcountywa.gov

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Request for Modifications/Approval of Agenda**
4. **Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for July 21, 2026**
5. **Public Comment for Agenda Items – *Please limit comments to three minutes***
6. **Health Officer: Infectious Disease Update**
7. **Program Updates/Informational Reports**
 - Public Health Highlights – Staff
 - Community Health Assessment (CHA)/Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Update – Staff
8. **Discussion Items**
9. **Board of Health Presentations**
 - Harm Reduction Health Center 2025 Summary – Staff
 - On-site Septic System Operations and Maintenance Program Report – Staff
10. **Board of Health Public Hearings**
11. **Environmental Health Director**
12. **HHS Director**
13. **Future Agenda Items**
14. **Board Member Updates & Announcements**
15. **General Public Comment – *Please limit comments to three minutes***
16. **Adjournment**

Next Meeting: September 15, 2026

Board of Health Members: Chair, Mike French, Vice-Chair, Shahida Shahrir, Tia Skerbeck, Dr. Paul Cunningham, Pete Tjemsland, Tara Coffin, Mark Ozias, and Randy Johnson

Health & Human Services Staff: Dr. Allison Berry, Health Officer; Kevin LoPiccolo, Director; Jenny Oppelt, Deputy Director; Jennifer Garcelon, Environmental Health Director; Nan Furford, Clerk of the Board



CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES of July 21, 2026 @ 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Clallam County Courthouse

Board of Commissioners Meeting Room 160

223 E. 4th Street

Port Angeles, WA 98362

Meeting was held in person and via Zoom (Video conference)

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Members present: Chair, Commissioner Mike French; Commissioner Randy Johnson; Vice-Chair, Shahida Shahrir; Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Representative, Paul Cunningham; Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Representative, Tia Skerbeck; Community Stakeholder Representative, Tara Coffin; Health Officer, Dr. Allison Berry; HHS Director, Kevin LoPiccolo; Environmental Health Director, Jennifer Garcelon

Members absent: Commissioner Mark Ozias; Pete Tjemsland, City Council Member; Jennifer Oppelt, HHS Deputy Director

Request for Modifications/Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Paul Cunningham, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION TAKEN: Agenda approved.

Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for June 16, 2026

Motion by Paul Cunningham, seconded by Shahida Shahrir, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

- None.

Health Officer – Infectious Disease Update

Dr. Berry reported Covid 19 rates remain relatively low. Wastewater surveillance for the Olympic Peninsula was recently reinstated and is showing moderate Covid 19 activity but there are very low rates of hospitalizations. Discussion followed.

Cyclospora is in the news. Thankfully we have not been affected in Washington State. Discussion followed.

The recent Crescent/Salt Creek Beach water closure was due to enterococcus. Beach sampling is done weekly at Crescent/Salt Creek Beach and Cline Spit between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Discussion followed.

Program Updates / Informational Reports:

- **Public Health Highlights**

Lisa Bridge presented the June 2026 Public Health Highlights report. Discussion followed.

Discussion Items:

- None.

Board of Health Presentations:

- **Environmental Health: 2025 Annual Report** – Jennifer Garcelon

Jennifer Garcelon presented the annual report. Discussion followed.

Board of Health Public Hearings

- None.

Environmental Health Director - Jennifer Garcelon

Jennifer Garcelon shared the Washington State Department of Ecology beach status map from their online page. Discussion followed.

HHS Director – Kevin LoPiccolo

Kevin LoPiccolo stated that Tara is on board now and has an orientation book for her. Kevin will bring updated manuals for others at the next meeting. We currently have Tribal Member and Consumer of Public Health positions open on the Board of Health. Discussion followed.

Future Agenda Items:

- Misinformation
- Emergency Management Services

Updates & Announcements:

- None.

Public Comment

- Fire Commissioner Greg Bellamy, Fire District 5 Clallam Bay spoke about Clallam Bay incidents.
- Jake Seegers spoke about misinformation.
- Terri DiMartino spoke about the DEA initiative, the pool, and OMC.
- Denise Lapio spoke about service animals in local restaurants.
- Teresa Miller spoke about similar programs and use of funds to be more impactful.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Next Meeting – August 18, 2026

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2026

CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Mike French, Chair

Allison Berry, MD, MPH, Health Officer

ATTEST:

Nan Furford, Clerk of the Board



HARM REDUCTION HEALTH CENTER 2025 ANNUAL SUMMARY



CLALLAM COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

THE 25TH YEAR OF THE SYRINGE SERVICE PROGRAM AT CLALLAM COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

2000: Clallam County's SSP (then called a "needle exchange" program) began as a harm reduction initiative under Clallam County Public Health. Established to prevent the spread of blood-borne diseases such as HIV and hepatitis C, the program operated on a one-for-one exchange model, providing one sterile syringe for each used syringe returned.

2017: In response to the growing opioid crisis, the program expanded its services to include referrals to substance use treatment, recovery support, and other health and social services.

2018–2019: As the opioid crisis continued, the health department expanded syringe services to Forks, increasing access to harm reduction services in rural western Clallam County.

2022: The Syringe Services Program (SSP) was officially renamed as the Harm Reduction Health Center, reflecting a broader shift toward comprehensive care. In recognition of mounting data in support of a paradigm shift, the program transitioned from a one-for-one exchange model to a needs-based approach for sterile syringe distribution, and began providing a broader array of sterile supplies, including injection alternatives, to support participants in reducing health risks.

2023: The Harm Reduction Health Center relocated from the conference room at the Port Angeles Health & Human Services building to a dedicated downtown Port Angeles location, creating additional space for storage, client services, and community partnerships. A mobile clinic van was also purchased, allowing services to be regularly delivered throughout Clallam County.

2025: Mobile outreach expanded to Joyce and Clallam Bay, continuing to expand harm reduction services in rural western Clallam County.



HRHC Positions:

- Program Coordinator
- Prevention Specialist
- Harm Reduction Support Specialist (x2)

REPORT CONTENTS

PAGE 4 THE WHY

PAGE 5 THE WHAT

PAGE 6 THE NATIONAL EPIDEMIC

PAGE 7 IMPACT ON CLALLAM COUNTY

PAGE 9 THE GOALS

PAGES 10-11 THE RECOVERY CONTINUUM

PAGES 12-13 OVERDOSE PREVENTION

PAGES 14-15 REDUCING COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

PAGES 15-16 COMMUNITY-BASED WOUND CARE

PAGES 18-19 WORKING TOGETHER

PAGE 22 RESOURCES

PAGE 23 REFERENCES



THE WHY

Reducing risk.

Preserving life.

Building trust.

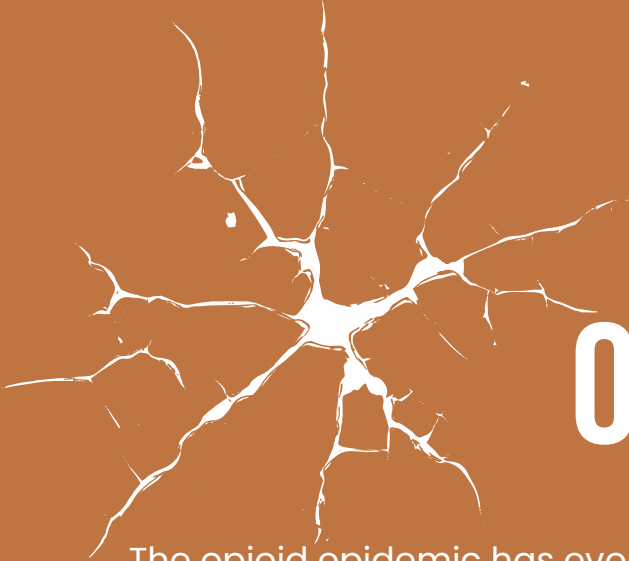
THE WHAT

Harm Reduction is an **evidence-based public health approach** that focuses on **mitigating the harmful consequences** of a given activity. From seat belts and firearm safety, to prevention of morbidity from chronic diseases, **harm reduction is a core component of medical and public health practice**. When it comes to substance use, harm reduction efforts focus on **prevention of overdoses and infectious disease transmission**, by providing **care that is free of stigma** and **centered on the needs of people** who use drugs ([CDC 2024](#)). It helps keep people safe, healthy, and connected to care, regardless of whether they are currently using substances, reducing use, or pursuing abstinence.

Harm reduction programs also **provide critical linkages to treatment for substance use disorders and other supportive resources**, including services such as overdose education and naloxone distribution ([CDC 2024](#)).

CLALLAM COUNTY'S SYRINGE SERVICES PROGRAM (SSP),

a.k.a., the **Harm Reduction Health Center (HRHC)**, is a community-based public health program that helps **reduce the health risks associated with injection drug use while connecting participants to health and social services**. Through these services, the Harm Reduction Health Center supports disease prevention, reduces overdose risk, promotes safer disposal of used syringes, and creates opportunities for participants to access ongoing healthcare and other community resources ([WA State Department of Health, 2019](#)).



NATIONAL OPIOID EPIDEMIC

The opioid epidemic has evolved over the past two decades, becoming one of the most complex and enduring public health challenges facing the United States.

- **The first wave began in the late 1990s** with increased prescribing of opioid pain medications, followed by a
- **Second wave of heroin-related overdose deaths** beginning around 2010.
- Since 2013, **a third wave driven by illicitly manufactured fentanyl and other synthetic opioids** has dramatically increased overdose fatalities.

Drug overdose deaths in the U.S. rose from approximately **17,000 in 1999 to a peak of more than 110,000 deaths in 2023**, with synthetic opioids involved in the majority of fatalities.

A 2019 hospital financial analysis showed that care for opioid overdose patients resulted in **\$1.94 billion in annual hospital costs** across 647 healthcare facilities nationwide ([Premier Inc 2019](#)).

Recent provisional data show encouraging progress, with an **estimated 80,391 overdose deaths in 2024—a 26.9% decline from 2023** and the largest one-year decrease ever recorded.

Despite this improvement, **overdose remains the leading cause of death for Americans ages 18–44, and fentanyl continues to drive most opioid-related deaths**, underscoring the **need for sustained investments in prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction services**.

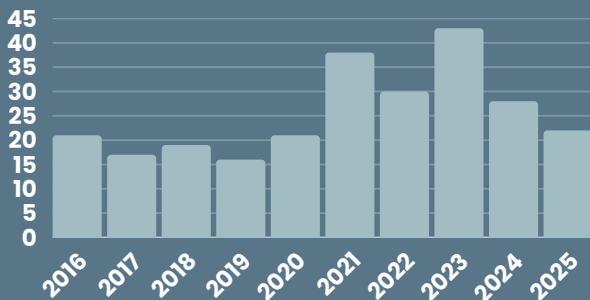
IMPACT ON CLALLAM COUNTY



Clallam County has experienced one of the most severe impacts of the opioid epidemic in Washington State. **Disproportionately impacted by the prescription opioid crisis**, Clallam County has long suffered one of the highest opiate overdose death rates in the state. **With the arrival of fentanyl in the community**, opiate overdose **death rates rose rapidly, reaching a record 46 deaths in 2023.**

Since the Harm Reduction Health Center (HRHC) expanded services in late 2023, overdose deaths in Clallam County have steadily declined. **Fatalities fell by 51% between 2023 and 2025.** This encouraging trend reflects the coordinated efforts of **partners across the county, including expanded access to naloxone**—a medication that rapidly reverses opioid overdoses. As one of the county's leading naloxone distribution sites, HRHC plays an important role in overdose prevention while providing **an average of 578 participant interactions each month** to connect community members with health services, education, and support.

Accidental Fatal Overdoses by Year, Clallam County (2016- 2025)

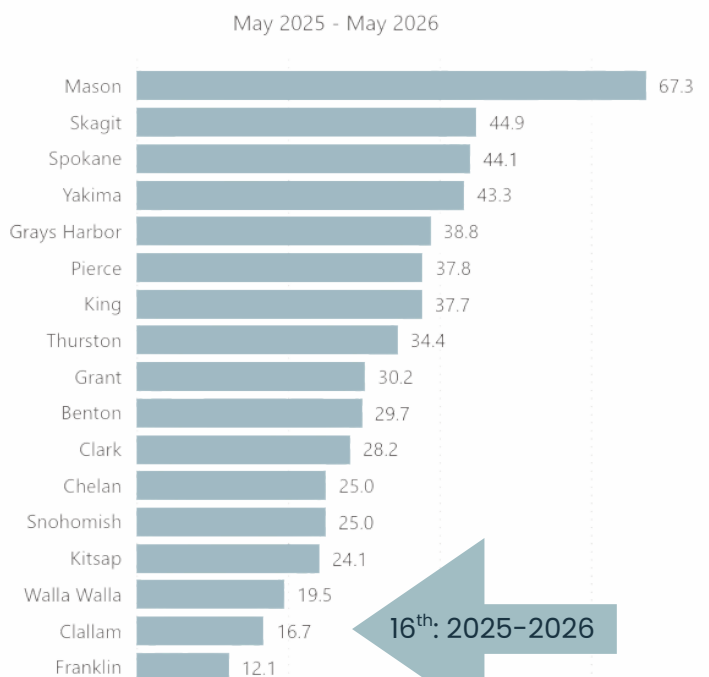


Source: WA State Vital Statistics & Clallam County Coroner's Office, 2026.

In 2022-2023, Clallam ranked in the top three highest counties for overdose fatalities. 2025-26 reports from the WA State Fatal Overdose Surveillance Network Bulletin now show Clallam ranking 16th, reflecting how overdose prevention work in the county is showing results.

Accidental Fatal Overdose Rates by County (per 100k population), May 2025-May 2026

Source: WA State Fatal Overdose Surveillance Network Bulletin, June 2026



**PREVENT
DISEASE,**

**PREVENT
OVERDOSE**

THE GOALS

- **Reduce the spread of infectious disease**, such as HIV & hepatitis C.
- **Prevent overdose deaths** via naloxone distribution & education.
- **Protect individual & community health with sterile supplies & disposal.**
- **Reduce health & safety risks** associated with injection drug use.
- **Connect participants** to healthcare, treatment, housing, & social services.
- **Build trust** & maintain consistent, nonjudgmental engagement.
- **Promote dignity, safety, & well-being** for everyone.

ALL
ACROSS
THE
STATE



The Washington Department of Health supports 26
Syringe Service Programs across the state.

THE RECOVERY CONTINUUM

Syringe Service Programs (SSPs) are an evidence-based public health strategy that helps prevent overdose, reduce the transmission of infectious diseases, and minimize other health risks associated with substance use.

SSPs are an important part of the continuum of care, serving as **a low-barrier entry point to healthcare and recovery support**. By providing sterile supplies, naloxone, education, and connections to healthcare, treatment, and social services, **SSPs reduce immediate health risks** while building trusting relationships that can help participants access additional care when they are ready.

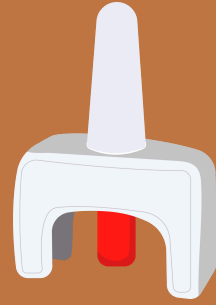
Recovery is not one-size-fits-all and it is not linear. Even while a person is still using drugs, effective public health interventions can improve health, well-being and quality of life, from lower-risk practices, to improved physical and mental health, to stable housing, and reconnecting with family.

Decades of research have shown that **SSP's do not increase drug use or crime**. In fact, **individuals who utilize an SSP are 5 times as likely to enter treatment as those who do not**, and **3 times as likely to stop using drugs** all together (WA DOH, 2024).



Every Block Helps Recovery Stand

OVERDOSE PREVENTION TOOLS



Naloxone and substance test strips are two key overdose prevention tools offered free through the Harm Reduction Health Center.

Naloxone is a life-saving medication that rapidly reverses opioid overdoses.

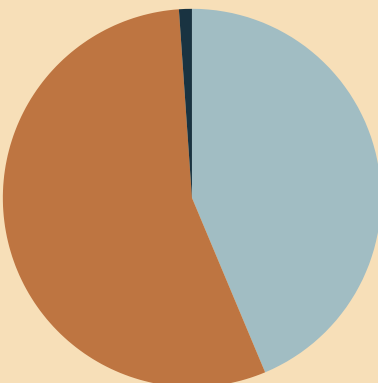
Distribution and training help bystanders act quickly before emergency responders arrive. According to the Washington State Department of Health, syringe service programs and community-based harm reduction programs are the primary community source of naloxone distribution ([DOH, 2024](#)). The Clallam County Harm Reduction Health Center is one of more than 700 partners in the Washington State Department of Health's Overdose Education & Naloxone Distribution (OEND) Program.

The HRHC manages **12 naloxone access points across Clallam County, including 6 boxes and kiosks in Port Angeles, 3 in Sequim, 2 in Forks, and 1 in Clallam Bay.** In addition, the HRHC supplies naloxone to multiple community organizations to distribute through their own programs and access points.

Overdoses can occur at any time. By placing naloxone in publicly accessible boxes and kiosks throughout the community that are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the HRHC helps ensure that anyone in our community can obtain this life-saving medication for free at any time.

2025 HRHC Naloxone Distribution

- Boxes & Kiosks (3,883)
- Direct Services (4,909)
- Trainings (98)



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The average national cost for an overdose patient treated and released in the ER is \$504, with costs rising to \$11,731 on average for people needing hospital admission (Premier 2019).

***Noteworthy:** Average retail cost of over the counter naloxone in Washington is \$40-\$50.



In addition to providing naloxone through direct services and mobile outreach, the **Harm Reduction Health Center conducts community naloxone trainings** at events throughout Clallam County. These free-to-the-public trainings provide community members with information on **how to recognize an overdose, how to use naloxone, and how to respond during an opioid overdose emergency**. Expanding naloxone education and access through community-based events increases the number of individuals equipped to respond to an overdose and supports broader community overdose prevention efforts.

In 2025, HRHC staff trained **64 community members** in opioid overdose response using naloxone and distributed **98 naloxone kits** through those trainings.

8,890 naloxone kits were distributed by HRHC via kiosks, naloxone boxes, community events, trainings, and direct service hours.



Request a Naloxone Training
Please fill out this request form

SAVE A LIFE

In 2025:
252 overdose reversals, using naloxone from HRHC, were reported to the HRHC by participants.

Substance test strips help identify the presence of substances like fentanyl in the unregulated drug supply. While they cannot measure potency or guarantee safety, they provide information that helps people make safer decisions. Research shows people who use test strips are more likely to use other harm reduction methods such as carrying naloxone, using smaller amounts, and avoiding using drugs alone (Network for Public Health Law, 2023).

As the drug supply becomes more unpredictable, test strips are an important overdose prevention tool. Distributing test strips also creates opportunities for staff to provide education on overdose prevention, safer use practices, and available health services, helping reduce overdose risk and connect people to care.

In 2025, 13,430 test strips were distributed to individuals and organizations.

REDUCING THE SPREAD OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

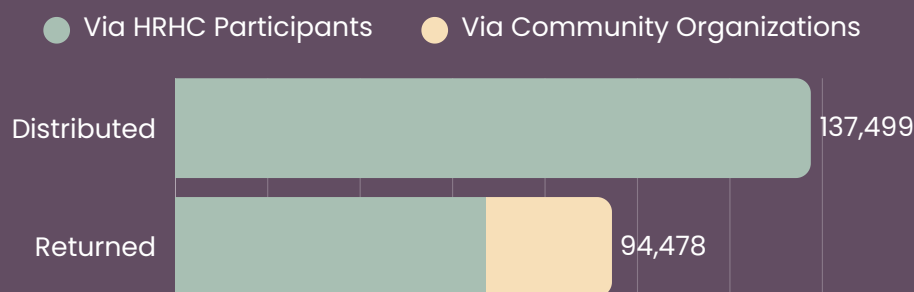


Sterile syringe distribution is a core component of SSPs, helping prevent HIV, hepatitis C, and other injection-related health complications. The HRHC uses a needs-based distribution model, providing participants with the sterile supplies they need rather than limiting distribution to a one-for-one exchange.

The Washington State Department of Health recognizes needs-based distribution as an evidence-based practice that improves access to sterile equipment, reduces barriers to participation, and lowers the risk of infectious disease transmission. Research has also found that needs-based distribution does not increase syringe litter and can support safer disposal practices and stronger engagement with health services ([DOH, 2019](#)).

Through the provision of sterile injection equipment, safe disposal options, and connections to health resources, the **HRHC promotes individual and community health** while providing comprehensive harm reduction services.

2025 Syringe Distribution & Disposal



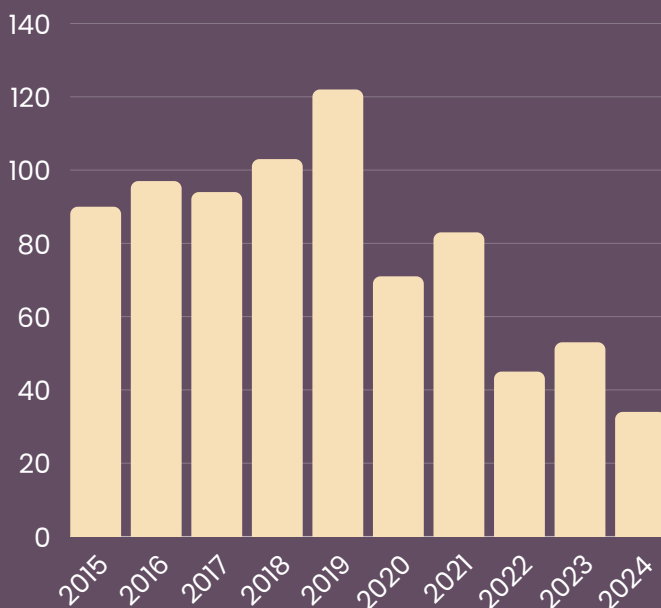
Sharps return totals should not be interpreted as a direct one-to-one exchange with syringes distributed during the same calendar year. Returns may include syringes distributed in prior years, syringes obtained from other sources, and sharps collected through community cleanup efforts or public disposal locations. As a result, return totals reflect multiple sources and timeframes rather than only syringes distributed during the reporting period. Similarly, syringes can be safely disposed of in sealed containers in municipal waste, which would not be captured in these totals.

The HRHC also provides **safer drug use supplies for smoking, snorting, and rectal administration as part of its comprehensive harm reduction services.** These supplies help reduce injuries, decrease the sharing of drug use equipment, and lower the risk of infectious disease transmission. They also create opportunities to engage people who use drugs—including those who do not inject—with overdose prevention education, naloxone, access to infectious disease screening, and referrals to healthcare, treatment, and other community resources.

Data from the 2025 WA State Syringe Services Program Health Survey shows that distribution of safer smoking supplies is associated with a 50% reduction in syringe usage amongst participants ([ADAI 2025](#)).

In 2025, the HRHC distributed **20,848 sterile pipe kits and 4,274 other injection alternatives.**

Chronic Hepatitis C Cases by Year, Clallam County (2015–2024)



Source: Washington State Department of Health Communicable Disease Dashboard, 2025

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Research shows that an SSP needs to prevent only 3 new cases of HIV each year to be cost-saving. (Des Jarlais et. al, Harm Reduction Journal)

Research in 2026: a youth with HIV would incur an average lifetime cost of approximately \$685,000. ([Neilan, 2026](#)).

Curative treatment for hepatitis C can save on average \$65,841 (2022 USD) in lifetime medical costs per person. ([CDC, 2026](#)).

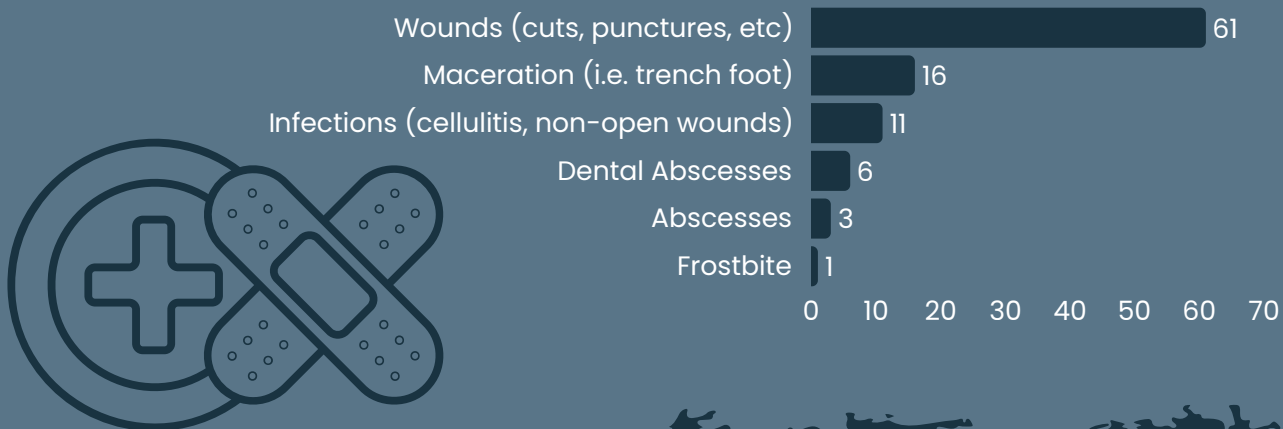
In Washington state, the distribution of syringes and other safer use supplies by public health programs is protected and defined by [RCW 69.50.4121](#).

COMMUNITY-BASED WOUND CARE

Participants can access on-site wound care at the HRHC through a partnership with **Olympic Peninsula Community Clinic (OPCC)**, **reducing barriers to timely assessment and offering treatment** in a familiar setting. This service was established in 2019 in response to high rates of injection-related abscesses and other severe wound complications.

In 2025, the HRHC recorded **104 wound care visits**. Of those visits, only 3 involved injection-site abscesses and 11 involved cellulitis, another common injection-related skin infection. The low number of abscesses and cellulitis cases reflects **the impact of harm reduction strategies that help prevent infections before they require more intensive medical intervention**.

2025 Wound Care Visits at the HRHC by Type



HRHC staff also distributed **5,028 wound care kits** to participants to support self-managed wound care and promote early treatment of minor wounds. These kits included:

- Hand sanitizing wipes
- Bandages
- Antibiotic ointment
- Antiseptic wipes
- Non-adherent pads
- Gauze sponges
- Stretch gauze & medical tape

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Outpatient treatment of uncomplicated skin infections can save \$1,700–\$6,500 per patient, while community-based care can reduce costs by an additional ~\$5,100 per patient by avoiding hospitalization (Lo Vecchio et al 2024)



Community-based wound care prevents infections from becoming medical emergencies. Abscesses, cellulitis, and other skin and soft tissue infections can often be managed early through wound cleaning, drainage, dressing changes, and referral for antibiotics when needed. Without timely care, these conditions are more likely to progress to severe infection requiring emergency department evaluation, intravenous antibiotics, or hospital admission.

It also improves continuity of care. Individuals who receive ongoing wound care in a familiar setting are more likely to return for follow-up, complete treatment, and engage with additional health and social services. This continuity reduces recurring infections and reliance on emergency care.

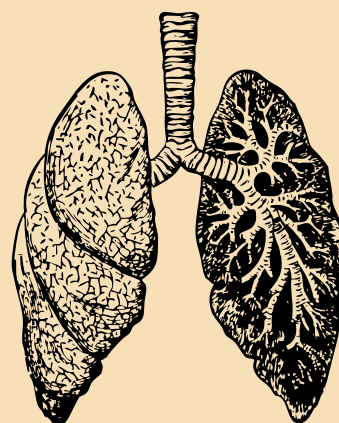
In addition, it improves health system efficiency. Without accessible outpatient care, the ED is often the default source of wound care. A single ED visit for a complicated skin infection may involve physician evaluation, laboratory testing, imaging, pharmacy services, and possible hospital admission. In contrast, community-based wound care is a lower-cost intervention that helps prevent complications and reduces overall healthcare utilization ([Goto et al., 2023](#)).

REDUCING TOBACCO-RELATED HARM

Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) helps people reduce or quit tobacco use by easing nicotine withdrawal and cravings.

The Harm Reduction Health Center provides free nicotine gum, lozenges, and patches in a low-barrier, nonjudgmental setting, regardless of a participant's readiness to quit.

Offering NRT alongside other harm reduction services creates opportunities to connect participants with health education, support, and additional services. **Reducing tobacco use improves respiratory health and lowers the risk of heart disease and cancer.**



In 2025, the Harm Reduction Health Center distributed 8,358 units of nicotine replacement therapy, expanding access to evidence-based tobacco treatment for people who may otherwise face barriers to care.

PARTNER AGENCIES, CARE COORDINATION



LOW-BARRIER ACCESS HUB

The HRHC serves as a trusted, low-barrier access point where participants can connect with healthcare, behavioral health services, substance use treatment, recovery support, and other community resources. Partner agencies and peer support staff provide services during open and off hours, creating accessible opportunities for engagement. In 2025, partner agencies connected with participants at the HRHC **661 times**.

STAFF SUPPORT & CARE NAVIGATION

HRHC staff identify participant needs, provide referrals, and offer warm hand-offs to help participants navigate healthcare and social service systems. This approach strengthens continuity of care, reduces barriers, and supports participant-driven pathways to positive health changes. In 2025, HRHC staff provided **48** referrals and warm hand-offs.

COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES & RESOURCES

Through partnerships with organizations including Olympic Peninsula Community Clinic (OPCC), REdisCOVERY, Port Angeles Community Paramedics, Reflections Counseling Group, Peninsula Behavioral Health, and North Olympic Healthcare Network (NOHN), the HRHC connects participants to a broad network of healthcare, behavioral health, substance use treatment, recovery, and support services.

ON-SITE & CO-LOCATED SERVICES

The HRHC brings services directly to participants through on-site partnerships, including wound care, behavioral health support, and substance use treatment assessments. Through the REdisCOVERY partnership, a Substance Use Disorder Professional provides voluntary, in-house assessments at the HRHC; **27 assessments** were completed in 2025. This integrated model reduces barriers such as transportation challenges, scheduling difficulties, and complex system navigation.

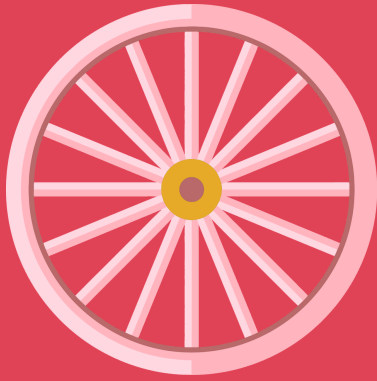
ROLE IN THE BROADER SYSTEM OF CARE

By serving as a trusted point of connection, the HRHC helps bridge gaps between participants and the broader network of health and social services, supporting access to care, stronger service coordination, and positive health changes.

A WARM HAND-OFF

A warm hand-off is an active referral process that helps participants connect with services, navigate barriers, and successfully engage in care.





WHAT THE HRHC IS: COMMUNITY ACCESS & CONNECTION HUB

The HRHC is designed as a welcoming community space in addition to providing harm reduction and overdose prevention services, grounded in dignity, respect, and belonging:

Supports basic needs and daily stability by offering a safe space to rest, socialize, and access practical resources.

Provides access to a hot lunch through a partnership with the Port Angeles Food Bank.

Offers practical supports including seating areas, phone charging stations, and a participant laptop to support connection to services, employment, housing, and family.

Maintains a clothing closet and distributes hygiene supplies to support health, comfort, and dignity.

Provides a resource library with local service information, education materials, and harm reduction resources.

Includes **a dedicated grief space** for remembrance and healing for community members lost to overdose.

Offers creative and wellness spaces, including art materials and a community donated piano, to support mindfulness, expression, and stress reduction.

Together, these supports **strengthen engagement, reduce isolation, and improve overall well-being** by creating a trusted, accessible community environment.



CLALLAM COUNTY'S HARM REDUCTION HEALTH CENTER



RESOURCES & MORE INFO

Learn more about harm reduction, overdose, or addiction, visit the following resources:

Prevent Overdose WA (WA State Department of Health):

<https://preventoverdosewa.org/>

National Harm Reduction Coalition (NHRC): <https://harmreduction.org/>

Addictions, Drug & Alcohol Institute (ADAI) at University of Washington:

<https://adai.uw.edu/> or <https://stopoverdose.org/>

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration:

<https://www.samhsa.gov/>

Washington State Department of Health Opioid Data:

<https://doh.wa.gov/data-and-statistical-reports/washington-tracking-network-wtn/opioids>

Salish BH-ASO Naloxone Directory (with interactive map):

<https://www.kitsap.gov/hs/Pages/SBHASO-Naloxone-Directory.aspx>



Training Request

Print Resources in Office

Harm Reduction Health Center

325 1/2 W. Second Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Phone: 360-565-2671

Open Hours
Tuesdays & Fridays
1:00pm - 4:00pm

The Harm Reduction Health Center offers education, partner agency connections & the following:

- Naloxone (Narcan)
- Wound Care
- Safer Use Supplies
- Syringe Services
- Substance Test Strips
- Hygiene Supplies
- Clothing Closet
- Reproductive Health & Safer Sex
- In-house Treatment Assessments
- Referrals to Community Partners
- Hormone Injection Supplies

CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

HARM REDUCTION WORKS

DATA. DIGNITY. HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES.

Decades of research show harm reduction programs save lives, prevent disease, and connect people to care.

REDUCES INFECTIOUS DISEASE 50% REDUCTION in HIV and Hepatitis C infections among people who inject drugs. Fewer infections mean healthier people and stronger communities. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	CONNECTS PEOPLE TO TREATMENT People who use syringe service programs are: 5x MORE LIKELY to enter drug treatment 3x MORE LIKELY to stop injecting drugs Source: Winger	PREVENTS INFECTIONS, PROMOTES HEALTH. Provides sterile supplies to prevent HIV and Hepatitis C. Offers testing, vaccinations, and wound care. Connects people to healthcare, housing, and other essential services. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
DOES NOT INCREASE CRIME OR DRUG USE Decades of research show syringe service programs DO NOT increase crime or illegal drug use. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	OVERDOSE PREVENTION SAVES LIVES Syringe service programs distribute naloxone and help prevent fatal overdoses. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	OVERDOSE DEATHS: THE EVIDENCE IS PROMISING Studies show lower overdose mortality in communities with greater access to harm reduction services. FEWER DEATHS MORE LIVES Source: Systematic Reviews, 2020-2024
HARM REDUCTION BUILDS HEALTHIER, SAFER COMMUNITIES SAVES LIVES IMPROVES HEALTH CONNECTS TO CARE SUPPORTS COMMUNITY WELL-BEING REDUCES COSTS TO HEALTH & JUSTICE SYSTEM FACTS. CARE. HOPE. A HEALTHIER FUTURE FOR EVERYONE. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) • Winger • Systematic Reviews 2022-2024 and others		

Call us at 360-417-2274

Contact Public Health at 360-417-2274

<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/660/Harm-Reduction-Health-Center-HRHC>

REFERENCES

2025 WA State Syringe Services Program Health Survey, University of Washington Addictions, Drug & Alcohol Institute: <https://adai.uw.edu/syringe-survey-2025/>

Drug Overdose Death Facts, USA Facts (2024): <https://usafacts.org/answers/how-many-drug-overdose-deaths-happen-every-year-in-the-us/state/washington-state/>

The Essential Role of Syringe Service Programs in Preventing Overdose Deaths, Washington State Department of Health (2024): <https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2024-11/150297-RoleSSPsInOverdoseResponse.pdf>

Evidence For Fentanyl Test Strips, The Network For Public Health Law (2023): <https://www.networkforphl.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Effectiveness-of-Fentanyl-Test-Strips.pdf>

Hepatitis C Treatment Could Save Billions, Center for Disease Control (2026): <https://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/whats-new/hepatitis-c-treatment-saves.html>

The Impact of Lifetime Healthcare Expenses on Youth with HIV, Bench Press (2026), Mass General Brigham, <https://mgriblog.org/science-insights/the-impact-of-lifetime-healthcare-expenses-on-youth-with-hiv/>

Is Your Syringe Services Program Cost-Saving to Society? A Methodological Case Study, Don C. Des Jarlais et al, Harm Reduction Journal (2021): <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12954-021-00575-4>

Opioid Overdoses Costing U.S. Hospitals an Estimated \$11 Billion Annually, Premier Inc (2019): <https://premierinc.com/newsroom/press-releases/opioid-overdoses-costing-u-s-hospitals-an-estimated-11-billion-annually>

Overdose Data to Action: Prevention Strategies, Centers for Disease Control (2026): <https://www.cdc.gov/overdose-prevention/php/od2a/prevention.html>

Summary of the Evidence for Needs-Based Syringe Distribution, Sarah Deutsch, MPH, University of Washington (2023): <https://www.sharpta.uw.edu/syringe-services-program-monitoring-and-evaluation-resources/summary-of-the-evidence-for-needs-based-syringe-distribution/>

Washington State Department of Health Opioid & Drug Use Data Dashboard, Washington Tracking Network: <https://doh.wa.gov/data-and-statistical-reports/washington-tracking-network-wtn/opioids>

Washington State Department of Health Unintentional Drug Overdose (SUDORS) Data Dashboard: <https://doh.wa.gov/data-and-statistical-reports/washington-tracking-network-wtn/opioids/unintentional-drug-overdose-data-sudors>

Washington State Fatal Overdose Surveillance Bulletin, King County Medical Examiner's Office (2022-2026): <https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoieYmQINTlZyYjktMjc4ZS00NmQ3LTlmZWYtNGQwMmJlODEzZjhliiwidCI6ImJhZTUwNTIhLTc2ZjAtNDIkdjY0OTk2LTcyZGZlOTVkJjNyJ9>

Washington State Opioid Trends, UW Addictions, Drug & Alcohol Institute (2025): <https://adai.uw.edu/wadata/deaths.htm>



HARM REDUCTION

2025 ANNUAL SUMMARY

CLALLAM COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



Outreach Events

North Peninsula Building Association

Staff connected with about 270 people



February 15 & 16 2025

KONP Home Show

Staff connected with 300+ people



March 8th & 9th 2025

4 Septic 101 Classes

122 Students attended





Outreach Events

River Fest, Sequim Students

Staff connected with about 1,400 kids



September 2025

Sequim Schools Grades 3-5

And open to the general public



Port Angeles High School Career Fair

Clallam County Fair



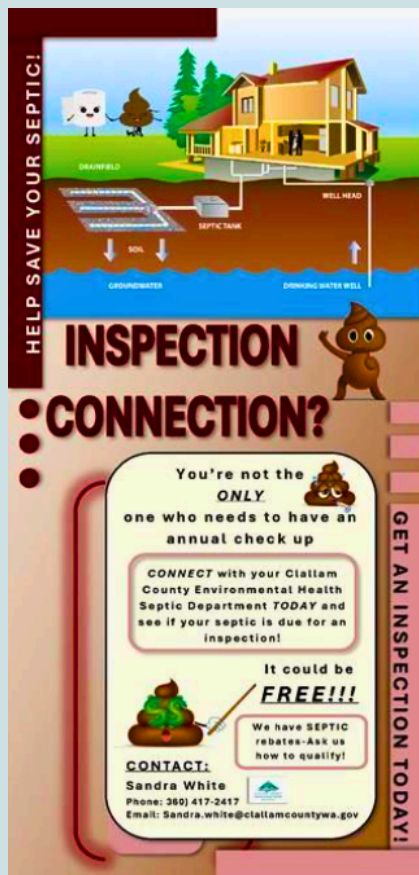
Forks 4th of July



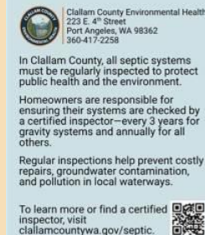


Outreach Materials

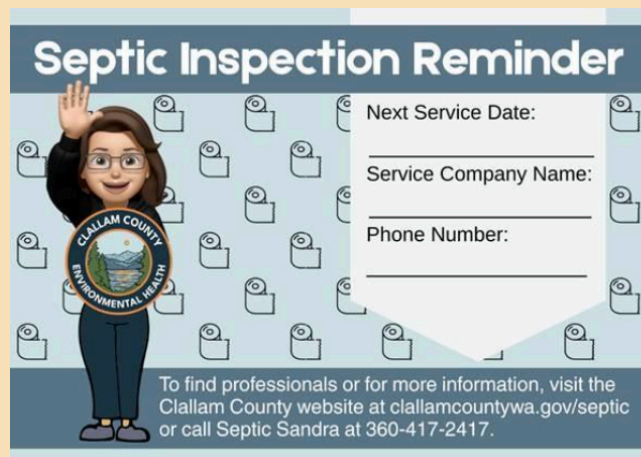
Septic Inspection Rack Card



Educational Septic Inspection Postcard, sent to 24,330 residents, targeting all homes outside of city limits



Inspection fridge magnet reminders for septic inspections





Key Achievements

EH Communications

100+ EH-Related Social Media Posts
Annual views 577, 100+
Content Interactions 6,300+

Collaboration and innovation

Working with multiple departments in collaboration with EH's Water Quality, Jon Strivens has provided a huge assist in the PIC and SIC programs

Local Radio Advertisements

For the 1st time, EH used Twilight Radio advertising for inspection compliance during the last 3 months of 2025

- 2023-2024 = 0 West End inspections
- 2025 = 5 West End inspections (results from call-ins for rebates for inspections from Twilight radio ads.

KONP Radio Advertising:

- Inspection requirements,
- Events



Thank You's

Ms. White-

I want to thank you and Clallam County for the septic assistance check that arrived.

With rising costs for groceries, electricity, insurance and day-to-day living, this means a lot to me.

Sincerely,
Janet R.

Hello,

Thank you so much. As a new homeowner and knowing there are some resources like this one has been amazing to know. I asked my aunt who had the place before me and she said I did not know we needed to do a report annually. So the little postcards you sent out were so beneficial.

Stephanie A.

Thank you!

You are so awesome to send follow ups like this. This is a level a customer service we rarely see these days! I appreciate it!

Barb T.



More Thank You Notes



Hi Sandra,

Thank You for making it happen.
We greatly appreciate the support.

Best Regards,
John P.

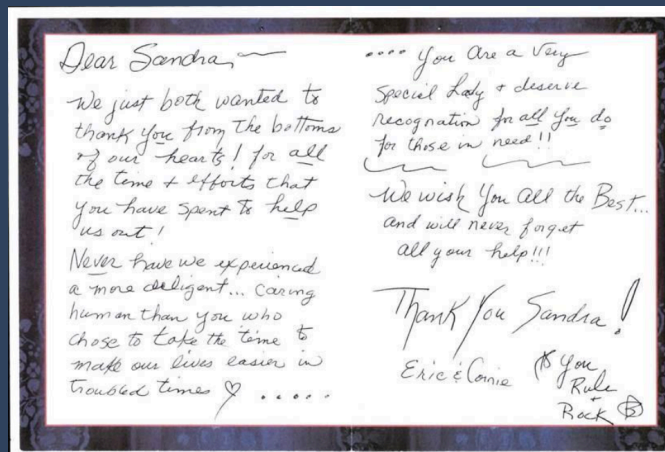
Omg..thank you so very much!!!! I'm certainly saying thanks at the dinner table for you/ this!

Happy Thanksgiving
Marla G.

Thank you, Sandra.

So glad the rebate went through and that the county has this program. Helps a lot.

Carmen G.



Incentives Between 2013-2025

