2019 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

19 HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019

www.harmreduction.org
Twenty five years ago, Harm Reduction Coalition was founded by a group of visionary people who made the bold decision to care about people who use drugs who were dying from AIDS. Since then, we’ve grown to become the national leader of the harm reduction movement. Whether at City Hall or Capitol Hill, we're working alongside and on behalf of people who use drugs. When you google harm reduction, our website is the first hit. We’ve trained thousands of people across the country how to help people who use drugs stay safe from an overdose or contracting HIV or hepatitis.

We're looking ahead to our next 25 years beginning with a fresh look and new website; launching a national initiative to scale up syringe access across all 50 states; and our biennial family reunion at #HarmRed20 in San Juan, Puerto Rico from October 15 - 18, 2020. We're doubling down on our commitment to racial equity and bodily autonomy for people who use drugs by re-imagining our capacity building portfolio, including ramping up training and technical assistance for bupenorphine, community-led naloxone distribution, and even harm reduction for pregnant people and doulas!

We are so grateful for all of our supporters — from government, foundation, and corporate sponsors to our long-time and brand new individual donors through Harm Reduction Champions. We believe that we can shift power and resources to people most vulnerable to structural violence and with your help, we can make it happen.

In Solidarity,

Monique Tula
Executive Director
"I'm in awe of the growth and building momentum I've seen over the past year. HRC is simultaneously at the vanguard of national harm reduction efforts and on the ground funding crucial grassroots work in areas that have been undersupported and undervalued."

- CORINNE GREEN
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

"We had major legislative victories in 2019. We'll build upon what we've learned through these triumphs in 2020 to ensure there's a plan to get syringe access in every state!"

- DR. HANSEL TOOKES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
We’re committed to hosting our biennial National Harm Reduction Conference in collaboration with local community to uplift and center the work across the country. For #harmred20, we announced that we’ll be hosting our conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico, from October 15th-18th! We are working with community partners to ensure we’re hosting responsibly and offering education to prospective attendees.
Our team offered thousands of hours of in-person training and remote technical assistance on projects in 36 states, ranging from multi-day training sessions to remote staff training to regional summits.
We embarked on a journey toward racial equity that began with a 2-day training with Race Forward in January. The road ahead is long, but we've committed resources and established an internal racial equity team to help guide our process in a way we can be vulnerable and courageous together.
We created our inaugural grant-making program supported by funding from Gilead Sciences Inc.* that awarded $5.3 million to 42 projects in five states (IN, KY, WV, TN, NC) to fund harm reduction services & community education - the largest single grant opportunity specifically to fund harm reduction programs in U.S. history.

*Gilead Sciences, Inc has no input into the development or content of these materials.
Funding victory! We partnered with Drug Policy Alliance to create a new budget request to support California syringe service programs and in less than 2 years, we won over $15 million! This marks the first time in 10 years that California has had designated funding for harm reduction staff support.
We launched a new citywide overdose prevention and naloxone access campaign in San Francisco, Know Overdose. The DOPE Project spent months talking to people who use drugs and frontline harm reduction workers across the city to understand the most effective types of information, visuals, and placement of the campaign. This was a campaign designed, built for and by people who are most at risk of overdose. They’re available to download on our website for anyone to use!
We piloted the first phase of the Harm Reduction Incubator, our new fiscal sponsorship program with four organizations, Bronx Móvil, NEXT Harm Reduction, Opioid Crisis Response Fund, and Red Umbrellas and Red Ribbons. We are currently working with legal and financial experts versed in incubation services and fiscal sponsorship to ensure the development of the best-informed policies and procedures to vet new organizations, define and structure the partnerships, and spin-off stable, sustainable, and successful programs that are ready to stand on their own.
We met with community members throughout New York State who have used Buprenorphine (prescribed and non-prescribed) to learn about common barriers to access, such as punitive policies and high financial costs, as well as the positive impact that buprenorphine and methadone have had on peoples’ lives. This community input will directly inform the New York State Department of Health’s best practices for buprenorphine distribution.
During 2019, Faith in Harm Reduction partnered with unions of people who use drugs and regional harm reduction programs to co-create community power building, advocacy, healing and justice events in ten states.
We had some major victories this year with Florida, Georgia, and Idaho passing legislation to support the statewide establishment of syringe services programs! But we still have 14 states that do not have supportive syringe access legislation. In 2020, we’ll be launching a national syringe access campaign to mobilize communities to ensure syringe access for all.
As a national organization, we’ve made a commitment to streamline our communication and systems to support hiring more remote team members to distribute our expertise and ears across the country. In 2019, we implemented new technology (Zoom and Asana) to support remote communication and project management and posted for 11 remote positions - and we expect that trend to continue!
We're supporting DecrimNY to repeal the “Walking While Trans” law as part of the broader movement to pass the Stop Violence in the Sex Trades Act (SVSTA).
Our team conducted a statewide needs assessment in California to learn more about what people who use drugs (PWUD) need to improve their health and wellbeing, and we kept hearing a common theme: access to low-barrier, no-cost buprenorphine. We partnered with the ED-BRIDGE program to develop and implement harm reduction approaches to expanding access to buprenorphine in emergency room settings and now have 52 hospital sites offering 24/7 treatment on demand!
The movement is building! We’ve seen new campaigns across the country, the introduction of local and state legislation, and a major victory with a federal court ruling that Safehouse’s plans to open a medically supervised drug consumption space in Philadelphia does not interfere with federal drug laws. Congratulations to advocates across the country for continuing this fight!
This year, we launched the Harm Reduction Champions, a community of monthly donors dedicated to advancing our mission. In the first two months, we had over 65 new monthly recurring donors across the country! Thank you to all our inaugural community members standing in solidarity with us to sustain and build on our innovative work.
We kicked off a new initiative to support the building of a statewide network in Wyoming to expand harm reduction in a frontier state! This past October, we hosted three community consultation meetings (Riverton, Casper and Cheyenne) where community members discussed what harm reduction in Wyoming means to them and what should be the next organizing steps for the coming year.
Our team has worked with the Bronx Opioid Collective to offer community building and outreach in the South Bronx two days a week in areas that are experiencing a significant amount of public injecting, syringe litter, over-policing, overdose, and struggles with community opposition to current conditions. We have given out backpacks to neighborhood kids for back to school, cleaned up syringe litter in the park, and built ties with the residents in the public housing across the street.
We’re expanding our team by 56% this year alone! We’ve hired 11 new staff this year and expect 2 more by the end of the year, bringing us to 37 staff members and growing! We know we’re attracting more candidates because we’re practicing what we preach: wellness and support to ensure we’re all in this for the long game. We offer our team members traditional health benefits, transit benefits, over 8 weeks of paid time off, office closed December 25 - January 1 to refresh, and summer Fridays for staff to leave a few hours early to enjoy the weather between Memorial Day and Labor Day.
Our board is active in research, policy, development, and communications! From our board members Dr. Susan Sherman and Dr. Hansel Tookes presenting on the history and benefits of syringe access and harm reduction to the freshman of the addiction working group of the U.S. Congress, to board members Julie Stampler and Mark Kinzly speaking to former President Bill Clinton about ways to support recovery options, we value the increasingly active board membership and contributions to support our vision!
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ORGANIZATIONAL BUDGET OVERVIEW

2019 BUDGET $7.3M

- 26% Government
- 12% Foundation
- 51% Corporate
- 4% Individual Gifts
- 7% Earned Income
THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

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Aetna / CVS
AIDS United
Arnold Ventures, LLC
Broadway Cares / Equity Fights AIDS
California Public Health Institute
Comer Foundation
Elton John AIDS Foundation
Fishman Family Foundation
Gilead Sciences
Judson Memorial Church
MAC AIDS Fund
NYC Dept. of Mental Health and Hygiene
NY Dept. of Health, AIDS Institute
Open Society Foundation
San Francisco Battery
SF Dept. of Public Health
Syringe Access Fund
Twitter
Van Ameringen Foundation
ViiV Healthcare
Wyoming Dept. of Health

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OUR TEAM

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Moody, AL
Logan Benton, Grants Manager

Memphis, TN
Orisha Bowers, Regional Director of HepConnect

New York, NY
Jean Avebe, Director of Finance
Kacey Byczek, Capacity Building Services Mgr. EAST
Abel Cantos, Staff Accountant
Christine Cline-Leung, Associate Director of Contracts
Hiawatha Collins, Community Mobilization Coordinator
Nathalia Gibbs, LGBT Health + Harm Reduction Coordinator
Joann Gomez, Office Manager
Helen Jones, Director of Operations
Carolina López, Deputy Director of Administration & Finance
Rose MacKenzie, Sr. Director of Policy & Mobilization
Keila Nuñez, Senior Accountant
Nancy Nwaifejokwu, Director of Development
Erica Poellot, Director of Faith & Community Partnerships
Daniel Raymond, Deputy Director of Planning & Policy
Emma Roberts, Director of Capacity Building Services
Mike Selick, Hepatitis C Training & Policy Manager
Kimberly Sue, Medical Director

Remote, CA
Maria Chavez, National Conference Director

Sacramento, CA
Taeko Frost, Sr. Director of Innovation & Strategy

Oakland, CA
Frances Fu, DOPE Training and Data Coordinator
Charles Hawthorne, Capacity Building & Community Development Manager
Jenna Haywood, Capacity Building & Community Development Manager
Adrienne Leddy, DOPE Project Logistics Coordinator
Kristen Marshall, DOPE Project Manager
Tanagra Melgarejo, Capacity Building Services Mgr. WEST
Savannah O’Neill, Capacity Building & Community Development Manager

Los Angeles, CA
Andy Gonzalez, Community Development Coordinator
Monique Tula, Executive Director

Fort Worth, TX
Lizzie Maldonado, Communications & Marketing Manager

Baltimore, MD
Kiefer Paterson, Government Relations Manager
Russell Barbour, PhD

Tino Fuentes

Corinne Green

Mark Kinzly

Alex H. Kral, PhD

Dakarai Larriett

Marcia McIntosh, CPA

Billy Pick, MSW, JD

Nandini Pillai

Board Secretary

Lisa Ramirez, MA, LCDC

Carlos Roig

Susan Sherman, PhD

Board Chair

Julie Stampler

Hansel Tookes, MD, MPH

www.harmreduction.org
The 2020 National Harm Reduction Conference comes at a time when harm reduction, health care, and drug policy reform have entered a dynamic and critical phase. The prescription opioid and heroin overdose epidemic has captured national attention, with renewed focus on transmission of HIV and viral hepatitis among people who use drugs. Join us in Puerto Rico to help reshape the policy and public health landscape and make harm reduction more urgent and relevant than ever before.
Harm Reduction Coalition helps shift power and resources to people most impacted by structural violence.

YOUR SUPPORT HAS MADE OUR WORK POSSIBLE FOR 25 YEARS.

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