The Harm Reduction & Drug Policy Networking Zone is rooted in the belief that the participation of those who use drugs is integral to ending HIV. In partnership with Portland Hotel Society from Vancouver, the zone will feature a spectacular replica of a Safe Injection Facility. A needle exchange van from Family and Medical Counseling Services will represent harm reduction services in D.C. The zone will showcase video presentations from drug users around the world who are unable to attend this year's conference due to irrational U.S. drug laws. The zone will also feature special events and entertainment in partnership with Harm Reduction International, HIPS, International Drug Policy Consortium, Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, Eurasian Harm Reduction Network, International Centre for Science in Drug Policy, International Doctors for Healthy Drug Policies and International Network of People Who Use Drugs.
Organizing drug users
HCV – whose virus is it anyway?
Shaping harm reduction in users and recognizes their capacity as that incorporates the expertise of drug course of action. This requires taking a drug users is the critical and necessary communities and expanding effective troubled economies, building stronger global response to HIV. In a world of disproportionately underfunded in the HIV services for drug users are often underutilized or unrecognized.

Drug users have been the driving force who use drugs are most successful of HIV and HCV. However, while harm reduction programs, they fight for decriminalization. Organized by International Network of People Who Use Drugs, Harm Reduction International and the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

Between 2007 and 2010 Washington DC experienced a 72% decrease in the number of newly-diagnosed HIV cases attributable to injection drug use. The Department of Health attributes this to the expansion of syringe exchange within the District. This session highlights the work of the people who made this happen. Speakers from syringe exchange programs will present on their work and the session will be chaired by Dr. Gregory Pappas, Director, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Administration, DC Department of Health.

• United States of Harm Reduction
• Voices from the Margin: Drug User Activists in the US

Drugs are the driving force behind initiatives that reduce the spread of HIV and HCV. However, while harm reduction and other services for people who use drugs are most successful when they incorporate drug users as leaders, that leadership potential is often underutilized or unrecognized. HIV services for drug users are disproportionately underfunded in the global response to HIV. In a world of troubled economies, building stronger communities and expanding effective HIV prevention, treatment, and care for drug users is the critical and necessary course of action. This requires taking a community strengths-based approach that incorporates the expertise of drug users and recognizes their capacity as human rights advocates and allies.

• Organizing drug users in communities of color
• Shaping harm reduction in East Africa
• HCV – whose virus is it anyway?
• ARVs: people who use drugs as peer support givers

The criminalisation of people who use drugs has been a central pillar of illicit drug control around the world for decades. This punitive approach has come under increasing scrutiny at local and international levels as a structural risk factor for HIV transmission, as the threat of criminal penalties and police harassment drives injecting drug use into unhygienic unsupervised marginal environments, and as prison populations’ increase. This session will draw on learning from the Global Commission on HIV and the Law, and on the experiences of both people who use drugs and law enforcement. It will make the case that the entire HIV/AIDS community should support people who use drugs and growing calls for decriminalization. Organized by International Network of People Who Use Drugs, Harm Reduction International and the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

TUESDAY, JULY 24
TIME: 11:00 – 14:30
WE CAN END AIDS – HUMAN RIGHTS & HARM REDUCTION MARCH
Meet at Human Rights Networking Zone at 11:00
TIME: 16:30-18:00
LIVING HARM REDUCTION: LESSONS LEARNED FROM 3 CONTINENTS
Harm reduction interventions can be readily adapted to diverse national contexts for an effective response to HIV epidemics among people who use drugs. The Community Action on Harm Reduction project draws on experiences from Western Europe and Ukraine to support the development of harm reduction initiatives in India, China, Kenya, Indonesia and Malaysia.


WEDNESDAY, JULY 25
TIME: 11:00 – 12:00
WHY THE HIV/AIDS COMMUNITY SHOULD SUPPORT THE DECRIMINALIZATION OF DRUG USE: CRIMINALIZE HATE NOT HIV
The criminalisation of people who use drugs has been a central pillar of illicit drug control around the world for decades. This punitive approach has come under increasing scrutiny at local and international levels as a structural risk factor for HIV transmission, as the threat of criminal penalties and police harassment drives injecting drug use into unhygienic unsupervised marginal environments, and as prison populations’ increase. This session will draw on learning from the Global Commission on HIV and the Law, and

TIME: 13:00 – 14:00
HARM REDUCTION PROGRAMS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.
Between 2007 and 2010 Washington DC experienced a 72% decrease in the number of newly-diagnosed HIV cases attributable to injection drug use. The Department of Health attributes this to the expansion of syringe exchange within the District. This session highlights the work of the people who made this happen. Speakers from syringe exchange programs will present on their work and the session will be chaired by Dr. Gregory Pappas, Director, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Administration, DC Department of Health.

TIME: 14:30 – 15:30
UNITED STATES IN FOCUS: HCLU FILMS & DISCUSSION
“United States of Harm Reduction”, “Voices from the Margin: Drug User Activists in the US” In November 2011 the HCLU video advocacy team asked many activists, outreach workers and service providers who attended the 8th National Harm Reduction Conference in Austin, Texas what harm reduction means to them. The movie was made right after the federal ban on the funding of needle and syringe programs was lifted - but what is the situation now, after the ban has been restored? To challenge stigma and discrimination and other harms of the drug war, drug users all over the world form user groups, they promote harm reduction programs, they fight for better health and social care, and they negotiate peace with the authorities. Our second film is about them. Discussion participants: Allan Clear, Director of the Harm Reduction Coalition, USA; Bobby Tolbert, VOCAL, New York, USA; Louis Jones, Users United, USA; Mark Kinzly Harm Reduction Coalition, USA.

TIME: 14:30 – 15:30
THE CHANGING TIDE OF HIV AND DRUG USE
The charismatic and awesome Debbie McMillan of the Transgender Health Empowerment and ex-HIPS staff will talk about her lived experience as a Trans woman with a history of sex work and drug use. The original title of her presentation was "Bad Girls Gone Wild" but the International AIDS Society rejected that descriptor. We think it suits just fine. Join us at our networking zone where her plenary presentation will be streamed live!

TIME: 14:30 – 15:30
THE NIGHTMARE THAT IS RUSSIA: HCLU FILMS & DISCUSSION
"Giving Hope" and "The Disproved Accusations of the Russian Drug Czar" There is only one NGO in Moscow that provides clean needles and non-judgmental help for young drug users – the Andrey Rydkov Foundation. The Foundation does not get any funding from the government for their HIV prevention; what is more, the authorities banned its website for spreading drug propaganda – that is, initiating discussion on opiate substitution treatment, an evidence-based form of treatment that is supported by all UN agencies. The two films are about the Andrey Rydkov Foundation and their struggle with the authorities. Discussion participants: Anya Sarang, director of the Andrey Rydkov Foundation, Russia.