

**PRESS RELEASE 10/8/2020**

Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction (HACHR)

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**Reauthorization**

HACHR has gained reauthorization for a two year period (2020 - 2022). This reauthorization was granted by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and covers HACHR delivery of SEP services throughout the county of Humboldt. The reauthorization excludes the city of Eureka. According to the letter sent 10/7/20 by CDPH, "In order to address the concerns conveyed by the City of Eureka, HACHR has conferred with CDPH and requested that CDPH/Office of AIDS amend the authorization to exclude City of Eureka from the state's authorization. This action does not negate or affect the City of Eureka's authorization of any syringe services program within their jurisdiction." This action was taken to clear the air about who has jurisdiction over HACHR within the city of Eureka.

**Compliance with Eureka Resolution and Ordinance**

HACHR is in compliance with City of Eureka Ordinance Number 871-CS, which concerns any SEP operating within Eureka city limits. Eureka is known to support harm reduction, as is stated in its local resolution, and HACHR is the only harm reduction NGO at work within the city of Eureka. HACHR offers a full array of harm reduction services, including syringe exchange, syringe litter cleanup, overdose prevention, HIV and Hepatitis C testing, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for opioid use, case management, wound care, PPE and other COVID related prevention, food, clothes, community education, and connecting participants to important resources such as primary care, housing, veterans services, and mental health services. We partner with multiple local, state, and national organizations to ensure that our policies and practices are in alignment with the most current standards of care. In addition, we adhere to evidence based harm reduction practices supported by the California Department of Public Health, the Center for Disease Control, and the World Health Organization.

**HACHR Looks Forward**

HACHR looks forward to continued improvement in the relationship with the city of Eureka. We believe that our participation in upcoming facilitated discussions with stakeholders and concerned citizens will help us all to arrive at solutions that meet everyone's needs, including the needs of HACHR's program participants.