

# HEALTH COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

RESOLUTION NO. 154-89

## RESOLUTION ON ADOPTION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM TO PREVENT SPREAD OF HIV INFECTION AMONG INTRAVENOUS DRUG USERS

WHEREAS, the cumulative number of AIDS cases reported in San Francisco through August 31, 1989 is 7,123, with 4,609 deaths, and with 921 (13%) percent of these cases among intravenous drug users;

WHEREAS, the seroprevalence among heterosexual intravenous drug users has climbed to a present level of approximately 15% and among homosexual and bisexual male intravenous drug users to 70% in San Francisco;

WHEREAS, the statistics for AIDS related to intravenous drug use in San Francisco is as follows:

<u>Transmission category</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Latino</u>	<u>Asian/PI</u>
Homosexual/bisexual intravenous drug using men	632	76	53	5
Intravenous drug user	53	70	25	3
Heterosexual contact with intravenous drug user	10	5	1	
Child of high-risk/AIDS parent	2	6	1	

WHEREAS, substance users are at particularly high risk for exposure to and subsequent transmission of HIV as a consequence of (a) sharing contaminated needles or (b) engaging in unsafe sexual activity;

WHEREAS, the "second wave" of the AIDS epidemic is occurring among intravenous drug users in San Francisco, and with it an increase in the number of perinatal AIDS cases;

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Department of Public Health is committed to arresting the transmission of HIV as a consequence of the sharing of contaminated needles and the unsafe sexual activity associated with substance abuse;

WHEREAS, the California State Board of Pharmacy passed a motion on July 25, 1989, in Sacramento supporting pilot programs for drug abuse and AIDS prevention which include: (1) drug abuse education, counseling and treatment, (2) AIDS education, (3) methadone treatment, (4) needle exchange, (5) primary medical care, and (6) statistical analysis and evaluation;

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and the San Francisco Health Commission remain committed to the larger goal of ending substance use, which has adverse effects on the individual and community;

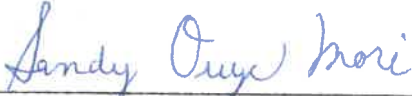
WHEREAS, the San Francisco Health Commission recognizes that some in the community have concerns about needle exchange, but, nonetheless, concludes that it has valuable potential, under appropriate conditions, to reach a population in need of health services and to reduce AIDS transmission, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Health Commission endorses in concept a comprehensive program to prevent the spread of HIV among the intravenous drug using populations of San Francisco, including outreach and education, ready access to treatment and counseling of intravenous drug users and their sexual partners about AIDS, and needle exchange; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Health Commission supports legislative efforts at the State level to permit a pilot needle exchange program; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Health Commission directs the Health Department to submit for approval the plan and budget for a comprehensive program that includes a pilot needle exchange project and its evaluation, when legally feasible, and includes consideration of the needs of various communities and their willingness to participate in the proposed comprehensive program.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Health Commission at its meeting of September 12, 1989.



Sandy Ouye Mori  
Secretary to the Health Commission