

Safeworks Monthly Report – June 2020

Supervised Consumption Services

July 15, 2020

Background

Safeworks Supervised Consumption Services (SCS) launched on October 30, 2017 in a temporary facility at the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre with a federal exemption to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act from Health Canada. On January 15, 2018, the temporary facility closed, and the permanent facility inside the Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre opened for operations. On April 30, 2018, Safeworks began offering services 24 hours, 7 days a week.

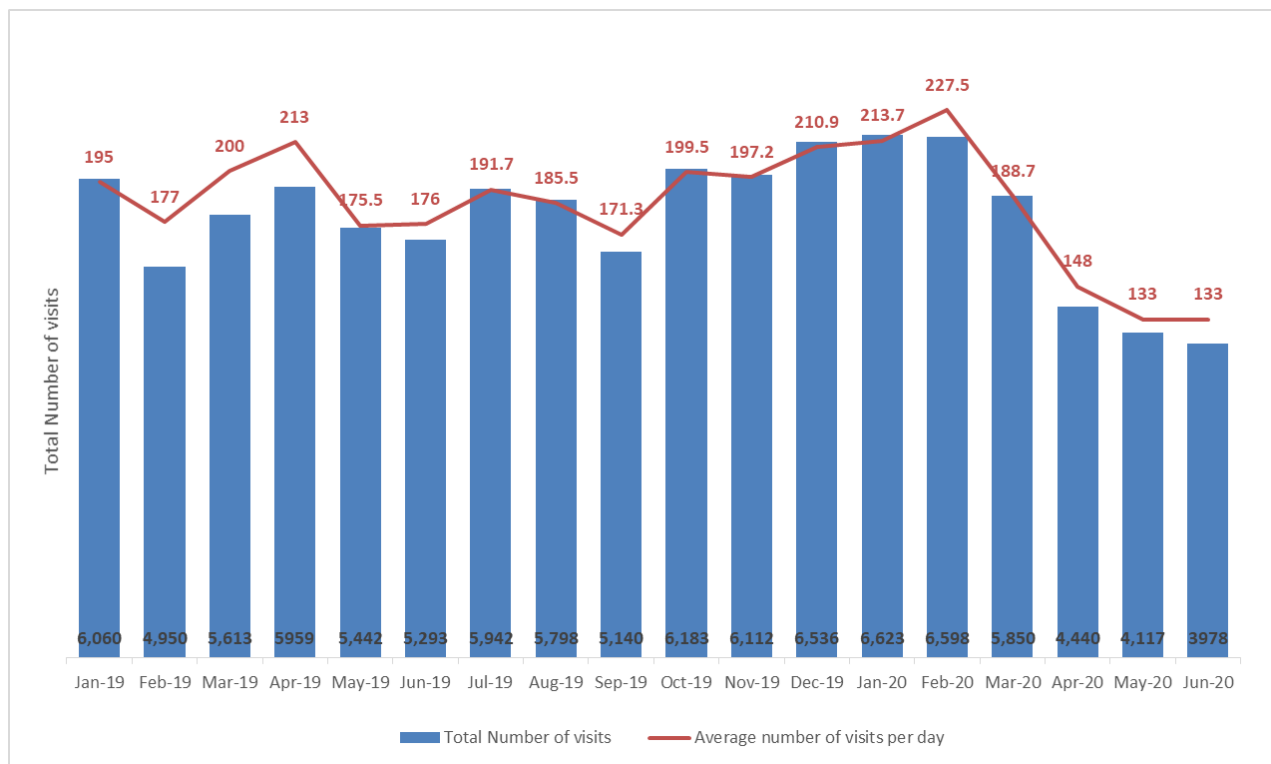
Service Uptake

From October 30, 2017 to June 30, 2020, Safeworks SCS had **155,107 client visits**. In June 2020, the site saw **527 unique individuals** in **3978 visits**.

Uptake of services increased over time and has recently declined during the spring COVID-19 response. In response to COVID-19 public health recommendations, Safeworks SCS decreased booth capacity from six booths to three booths on March 19, 2020 to maintain physical distancing measures within the consumption room.

The average number of visits per day was 133 from June 1 to June 30, 2020.

Fig 1: Safeworks SCS Total Number of Visits and Average Number of Visits per Day, by Month



Drug Use and Overdose Prevention and Response

In June, drugs were consumed on site under the supervision of registered nurses (RNs) or paramedics **3382 times**. With each client who uses drugs by injection, RNs and paramedics are available to provide education on vein care, infection prevention, and injection technique. In June, there were no instances of ingestion (swallowing), and 175 instances of intranasal use (snorting).

The most frequently reported drugs used in June were fentanyl (1228 times) and meth/crystal (1392 times). Clients may use more than one drug with a single visit.

Overdose response kits (containing Naloxone) and overdose prevention education are offered to all clients accessing Safeworks SCS. In June, staff distributed **281 overdose response kits**.

Since operations began on October 30 2017 to June 30 2020, Safeworks staff have responded to a **total of 1863 overdoses**.

In June, Safeworks staff responded to 42 overdoses. Of these, 42 required supplemental oxygen, 15 required naloxone and one also required an EMS response.

Table 1: Safeworks SCS Summary of Visits and Overdoses by Month

| Month | Number of client visits | Number of times drugs consumed | Number of Overdoses | Overdoses per number of times drugs consumed |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Oct 30–Nov 30, 2017 | 990 | 827 | 26 | 3.14% |
| Dec 2017 | 1561 | 1281 | 29 | 2.26% |
| Jan 2018 | 2054 | 1687 | 35 | 2.07% |
| Feb 2018 | 2281 | 2003 | 29 | 1.45% |
| Mar 2018 | 3134 | 2683 | 67 | 2.50% |
| Apr 2018 | 3425 | 2867 | 44 | 1.53% |
| May 2018 | 5102 | 4131 | 71 | 1.72% |
| Jun 2018 | 4327 | 3545 | 78 | 2.20% |
| Jul 2018 | 4151 | 3295 | 67 | 2.03% |
| Aug 2018 | 4332 | 3571 | 59 | 1.65% |
| Sep 2018 | 5065 | 4162 | 89 | 2.14% |
| Oct 2018 | 6204 | 4664 | 63 | 1.35% |
| Nov 2018 | 5858 | 4745 | 62 | 1.31% |
| Dec 2018 | 5989 | 5033 | 52 | 1.03% |
| Jan 2019 | 6060 | 4936 | 60 | 1.22% |
| Feb 2019 | 4950 | 3877 | 70 | 1.81% |
| Mar 2019 | 5613 | 4409 | 53 | 1.20% |
| Apr 2019 | 5959 | 5309 | 38 | 0.72% |
| May 2019 | 5442 | 4942 | 63 | 1.27% |
| Jun 2019* | 5293 | 4532 | 57 | 1.26% |
| Jul 2019 | 5942 | 4804 | 90 | 1.87% |
| Aug 2019 | 5798 | 4928 | 64 | 1.30% |
| Sep 2019 | 5140 | 4361 | 39 | 0.89% |
| Oct 2019 | 6183 | 5311 | 49 | 0.92% |
| Nov 2019 | 6112 | 5420 | 73 | 1.35% |
| Dec 2019 | 6536 | 5800 | 71 | 1.22% |
| Jan 2020 | 6623 | 5994 | 47 | 0.78% |
| Feb 2020 | 6598 | 6069 | 54 | 0.88% |
| Mar 2020 | 5850 | 5538 | 83 | 1.50% |
| Apr 2020 | 4440 | 3988 | 87 | 2.18% |
| May 2020 | 4117 | 3537 | 52 | 1.47% |
| June 2020 | 3978 | 3382 | 42 | 1.24% |
| Total | 155,107 | 131,631 | 1863 | 1.41% |

* The number of overdoses reported from June 2019 to November 2019 have been amended from previous reports due to a data processing error that was corrected in the December 2019 report and onward.

Wrap-Around Care and Referrals

To provide streamlined access to specialized care, Safeworks SCS has partnerships with both AHS programs and external community partners. In June, Safeworks made 108 referrals.

Table 2: Safeworks SCS Summary of Referrals by Month

| Month | Social Work Referrals | ODP Referrals | Other Referrals * | Treatment/ Detox | Shelter/ Housing | Urgent Care | Total Referrals |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Oct 30–Nov 30 2017 | 12 | 7 | 14 | Data not broken down during this time period. These categories were grouped into “Other Referrals” from October 2017 to December 2018. | | | 33 |
| Dec 2017 | 33 | 12 | 10 | | | | 55 |
| Jan 2018 | 11 | 12 | 10 | | | | 33 |
| Feb 2018 | 14 | 9 | 12 | | | | 35 |
| Mar 2018 | 14 | 6 | 9 | | | | 29 |
| Apr 2018 | 2 | 10 | 11 | | | | 23 |
| May 2018 | 10 | 12 | 12 | | | | 34 |
| Jun 2018 | 0 | 5 | 6 | | | | 11 |
| Jul 2018 | 1 | 3 | 7 | | | | 11 |
| Aug 2018 | 0 | 2 | 6 | | | | 8 |
| Sep 2018 | 1 | 3 | 13 | | | | 17 |
| Oct 2018 | 0 | 4 | 15 | | | | 19 |
| Nov 2018 | 4 | 8 | 26 | | | | 38 |
| Dec 2018 | 10 | 4 | 57 | | | | 71 |
| Jan 2019 | 15 | 9 | 85 | 19 | 22 | 13 | 163 |
| Feb 2019 | 5 | 8 | 64 | 14 | 52 | 7 | 150 |
| Mar 2019 | 3 | 5 | 56 | 16 | 49 | 4 | 133 |
| Apr 2019 | 5 | 6 | 43 | 9 | 41 | 6 | 110 |
| May 2019 | 1 | 3 | 80 | 30 | 43 | 4 | 161 |
| Jun 2019 | 1 | 5 | 66 | 14 | 52 | 4 | 142 |
| Jul 2019 | 8 | 18 | 165 | 25 | 123 | 9 | 348 |
| Aug 2019 | 26 | 10 | 106 | 24 | 65 | 13 | 244 |
| Sep 2019 | 33 | 17 | 97 | 16 | 51 | 11 | 225 |
| Oct 2019 | 19 | 4 | 53 | 8 | 52 | 13 | 153 |
| Nov 2019** | 9 | 2 | 28 | 7 | 36 | 15 | 97 |
| Dec 2019 | 11 | 7 | 32 | 9 | 70 | 13 | 142 |
| Jan 2020 | 8 | 16 | 39 | 9 | 62 | 19 | 153 |
| Feb 2020 | 3 | 0 | 11 | 4 | 22 | 3 | 43 |
| Mar 2020 | 9 | 21 | 37 | *** | 15 | 7 | 89 |
| Apr 2020 | 10 | 9 | 60 | *** | 13 | 8 | 100 |
| May 2020 | 10 | 6 | 90 | 7 | 14 | 18 | 145 |
| Jun 2020 | 9 | 8 | 70 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 108 |
| Total | 297 | 251 | 1391 | | | | 3123 |

* “Other” includes referrals made to a variety of programs, including iOAT, The SORCE, and Community Paramedics.

** Number of referrals may be under-reported for November 2019.

*** Treatment/detox for March and April 2020 is grouped into ODP.