



?AJIMET Harm reduction – Tla'amin



THE UNIVERSITY
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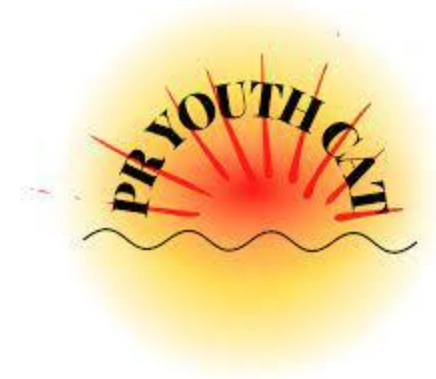
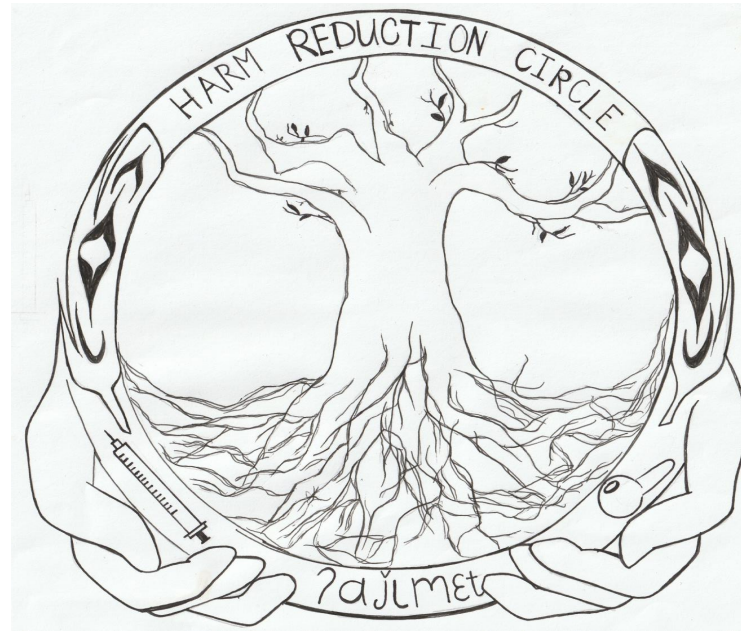


First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

Vancouver
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Promoting wellness. Ensuring care.



BRITISH COLUMBIA
CENTRE ON
SUBSTANCE USE
Networking researchers, educators & care providers



Community
Action
Team

Հայմեթ
Harm
Reduction
Circle



Who are We?

- ʔajumət Harm Reduction Circle is a community and peer led, culturally based harm reduction team which consists of Indigenous people with lived and living experience with substance and alcohol use (PWLLE/peers) a clinical support team, and mental health and wellness staff within ʔaʔamun Health.
- Primarily located at the old soccer fieldhouse (now called ʔajumət or sometimes “the clubhouse”) in tišosəm, ʔaʔamun Nation, we provide Indigenous harm reduction and substance use supports to ʔaʔamun citizens and other Indigenous people living within the qat^ət region

What Are Some Things We Offer?

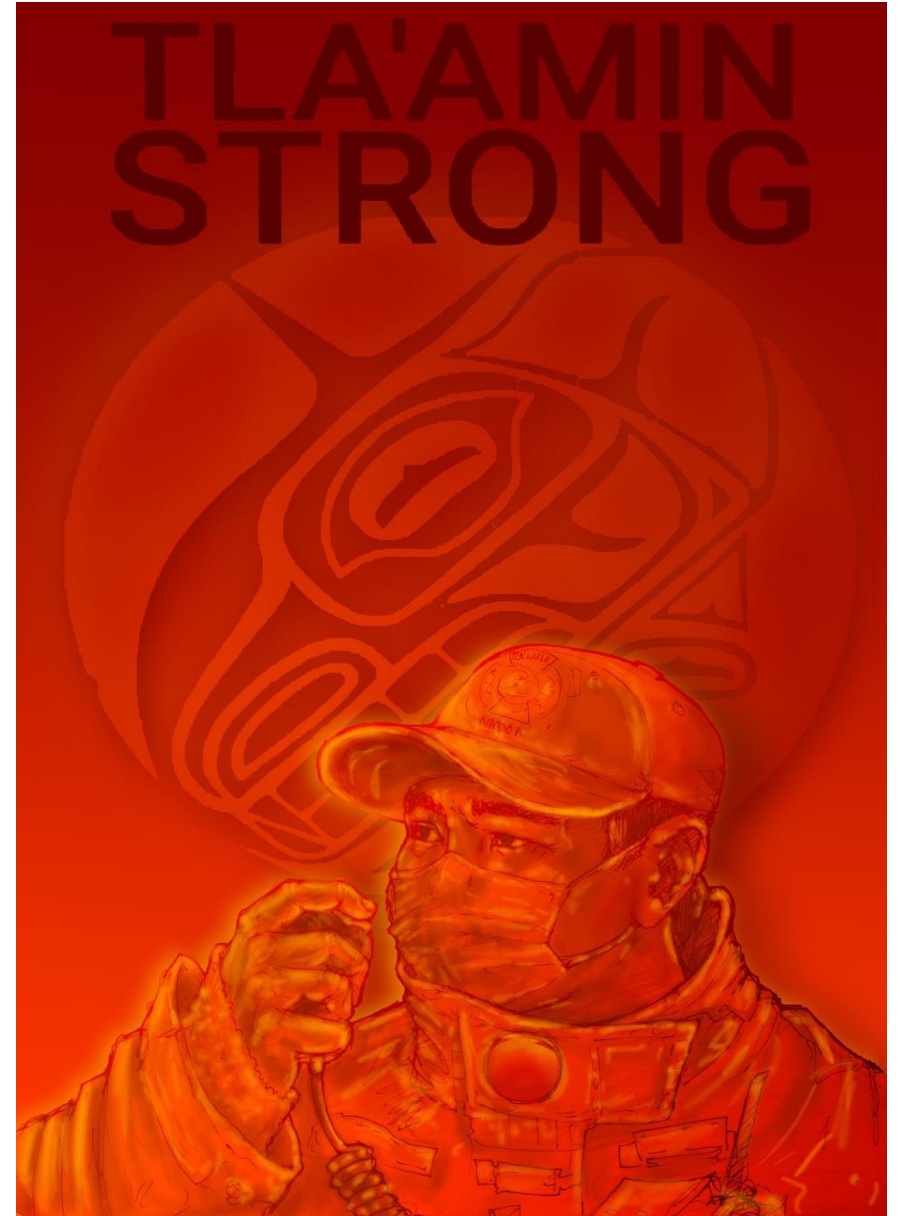
- OAT clinic and support
 - Weekly Drop-In Lunch Program
 - Community harm reduction education and workshops
 - Outreach and Peer support for PWLLE/PWUD
 - Provide safe and confidential access to naloxone, safe use supplies and drug checking options
 - Cultural connection, activities and programs
 - Community connection, outreach and engagement
-
- Systems navigation
 - Linkages to other health programs (e.g., MAP, traditional wellness, social work)
 - Partnerships with other local services (e.g., Intensive Case Management, intensive substance use treatments, outreach, drug checking)
 - Grief and loss support for PWLLE and their families
 - Weekly Drop-In hours

How we started...

- First Shelter in Place Order issued Sept 8th, 2020
 - Incident Command worked with Health Director to set up pop up tents in collaboration with VCH/LIFT Harm Reduction Team and prescribing Doctor
 - First Pop Up Sept 11th, alongside Shelter in Place extension
- Set up 2 peers in Tla'amin to support with deliveries of much needed harm reduction supplies
 - Peers set up with phones and ability to do peer witnessing from outside (no contact)
 - Shelter in Place order lasted 10 days total, curfew continued after order was lifted

November 2020

- The Tla'amin Harm Reduction Working Group was created
- Included Tla'amin Health, Tla'amin FD, VCH, LIFT, FNHA, an Elder and Peers
- Weekly (then bi-weekly) zoom meetings were held until late 2021
- Weekly in person Peer meetings held Oct 2020- Dec 2020



A little help from our friends....




- Ongoing collaborations with LIFT and SUSTAIN (Substance Users Society Teaching Advocacy Instead of Neglect); VCH/CCH
- Fall 2021 Re Energizing Peer Wellness training with CMHA, FNHA for 4 Tla'amin Peers
- 3 paid Peers in 2021-22 (led by Lift) doing Peer support and bi-weekly hot lunch delivery program in tišosəm



We Care



we care about you
free for anyone




  

NALOXONE BASIC NEEDS KITS SAFER USE KITS





PLEASE TAKE THE ENTIRE KIT
If you can't use it all, please give it away
or put it in the garbage.

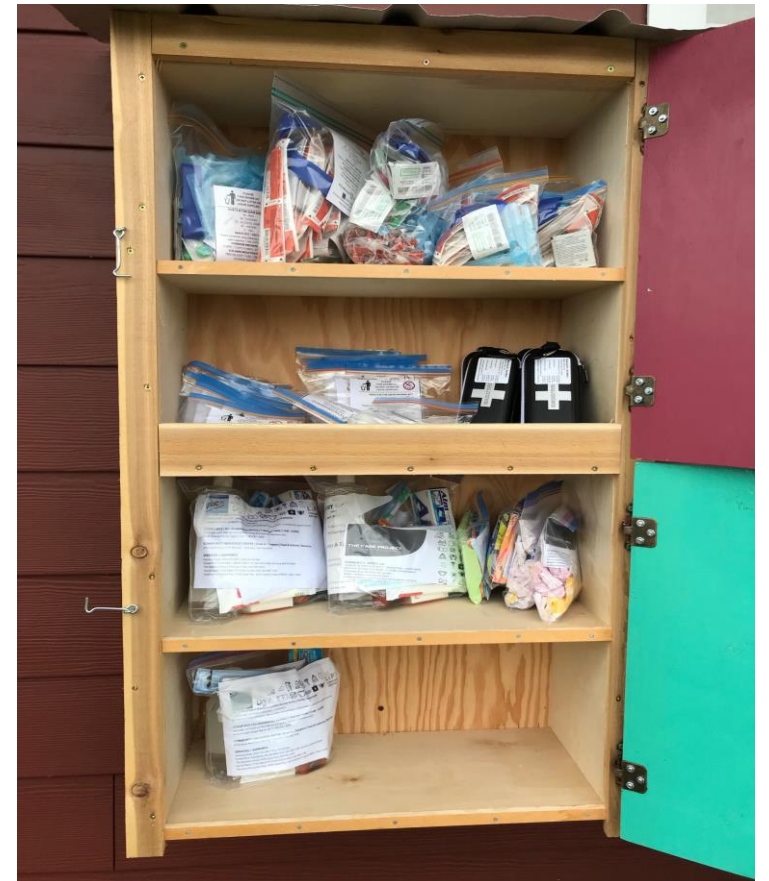
DOES THIS CUPBOARD NEED ATTENTION?
SUGGESTIONS? WANT TO DONATE?
info@liftcommunityservices.org re: Care Cupboard
604-223-9487

free books
take + leave + share

THIS CARE CUPBOARD IS SUPPORTED BY



New Beginnings – June to August 2022

- Tla'amin Nation gifts a renovated space to the new Harm Reduction Program - **?ajumet (a beautiful, safe place to go)**
- First community outreach event with qathet Youth CAT at Wet Grad
- Harm Reduction BBQ with resource table and naloxone training at TLAFD
- Re-Energizing Wellness Peer training in səliiwətał with three Peers





We hit the ground running!

September 2022

- Peer transition and growth
- Collaborated with Work BC for Wage Subsidy agreement for Peers.
- Hosted initial workshop, Courageous Conversations
- ʔajumət hosts Grand Opening and Peer Blanketing Ceremony through IOAD grant from FNHA



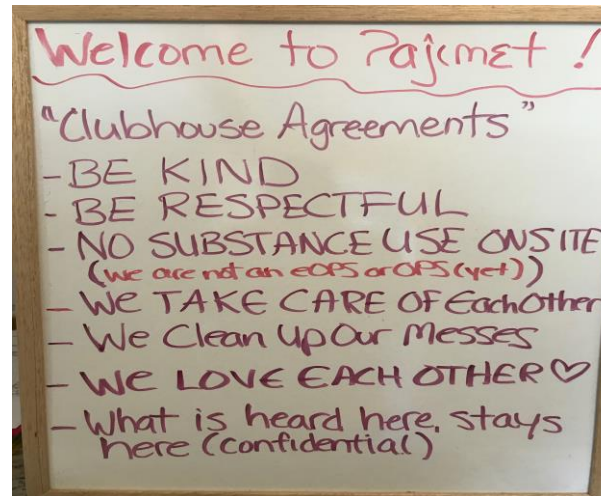
And kept running!

- Skoo-Kum hi-yu'ko-pet' (Strong Enough) Sub-regional peer network with four other nations, CMHA and FNHA
- Peers and Coordinator on Community Advisory Board for 3-year BCCSU/UBC research project in qathet on OAT access in Rural and Remote communities
- Weekly food programs created in response to ongoing food insecurity in community including life skills. Hands on programs.



What's next for ʔajumet?

- Drug checking services expansion through MOU with BCCSU, VCH, and LIFT
- Planning, design and implementation of a traditional medicine garden and food garden
- Ongoing advocacy for PWLLE and their families, anti-stigma work, housing and food supports
- Land Based Healing activities



qathet Regional Drug Checking Program

- Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy
 - On-site vs. mail-in drug checking
- Immunoassay test strips
- Harm reduction education
- Take home naloxone



Weaving-in Western Medicine: Opiate Agonist Treatment

Identified a need for OAT

- Geographic location
- Lack of transportation
- Word of mouth



Program launch Spring 2022

- 1-2 priority community members
- methadone
- buprenorphine
- Hydromorphone
- Slow-release oral morphine

Leveraging community strengths

- Familiar care providers
- Nurses experienced in HR
- Harm reduction team/IPWLLE
- Strong traditional wellness linkages

OAT program planning

- Stakeholder meetings
- Role development
- Policy (e.g., CDS)
- Workflow (e.g., pharmacy/prescriber)



Integrating dual program models

OAT Dispensing

- Prescriber off-site
- Community pharmacy delivers medication
- OAT stored on-site
- Nurses dispense OAT daily

Nurse OAT Prescribing

- Registered Nurses trained as OAT prescribers (buprenorphine)
- Clinical pathways developed
- FNHA site approval

Challenges addressed along the way

- Stigma and racism
- Prioritizing community members
- Limited OAT prescriber workforce
- Capacity/workload
- Transportation of CDS
- Harm reduction knowledge sharing
- Inclusion of all health staff (e.g., unregulated care providers)

Participant Wellness Outcomes

- Improved self-efficacy
- OAT treatment retention
- Reduced strain on family for transportation to pharmacy
- Ability to be present for ceremony, family, programs/services
- Reduced access to toxic drug supply
- Paid employment opportunities



Two-Eyed Seeing: Visions for the Future

Pharmaceutical
Alternatives

Interdisciplinary
Prescribing Team

Housing

Land Based Harm
Reduction

Nation-Led
Continuum of Care

Once all around is well, we are all well?

Our Health and Well-being



"Our teachings have brought a lot of calm into my everyday thinking."

Tla'amin
Health and
Wellness Plan
2022-2029

