Petition Against the Application Submitted by the Harm Reduction Institute (HRI) to Operate a Needle Distribution Program in Santa Ana

The California Department of Public Health's approval of a needle exchange program poses serious concerns regarding public health, safety, and the well-being of our community. A needle distribution program that operated in Santa Ana from 2016 to 2018, resulted in 250,000 used syringes being discarded in public areas frequented by children, including the Civic Center, library, senior center, neighborhoods, and businesses. Presently, HRI plans to operate a needle distribution program in our community that would, on an annual basis, provide 300,000 syringes—while only collecting 180,000. This means that 120,000 needles annually could be discarded in public areas. The operation of a needle distribution program by HRI would seriously jeopardize the health, safety, and well-being of our youth, neighborhoods, and businesses. We cannot afford to ignore the negative impacts that a needle exchange program will have on our community. Not accounting for 120,000 needles in our community is unacceptable.

We, the undersigned residents of the <Name of> Neighborhood, are concerned residents who oppose the application submitted by the Harm Reduction Institute (HRI) to operate a needle distribution program in Santa Ana.

Name	Signature	Address	Date