**WHO**

We talked to 30 people who regularly used fentanyl, at syringe services programs in WA.

**WHY**

To learn why people use fentanyl, and what services and supports people want.

**WHEN**

Surveys were conducted in the Fall of 2022.

### Why people use fentanyl:

- Lessen physical pain
- Numb emotions
- Avoid withdrawal / Addiction
- Get high

### Concerns about fentanyl:

- Withdrawal comes on too fast
- Deadly, high overdose risk
- Unpredictable, sometimes too strong or too weak
- Loss of connection to loved ones

### What would help:

- Housing and other basic needs
- Kind, low-barrier, non-stigmatizing health care, social services, and addiction treatment providers
- Medical pain management
- Harm reduction support: smoking supplies, safe drug supply, syringes
- Cash
- Rebuilding connections to loved ones

### What would ideal treatment look like:

*The general vibe would... be acceptance, and love, and you don’t have to hurt yourself to not hurt here. Because all that is hurting ourselves out there. You’re safe here.*

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**~70% of people said they’d like to reduce or stop their fentanyl use.**

**What stands in their way?**

Lack of housing, lack of access to care, previous experience with judgmental providers, and being connected to other people who are still using fentanyl.

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Read the full report here: [adai.uw.edu/ideal-care-fentanyl-2023](http://adai.uw.edu/ideal-care-fentanyl-2023)

If you want to cut back or quit, scan the QR code for resources or contact the Washington Recovery Helpline at 1.866.789.1511, warecoveryhelpline.org