

From: Niki Fisher <nfisher@sdao.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:36 PM
To: director bakerlib.org
Subject: RE: REQUEST - Liability risk for proposed outdoor sharps disposal bin at Baker County Library

Hi Perry,

We recommend that if you allow NDNW to place a receptacle on library property that you ensure they are responsible for maintenance of the drop box. They should be responsible for the disposal and any cleanup that may be required. The box should be in an area that is well lit.

I am glad that Malheur County is seeing a success in reduction of unsafely discarded needles. I have seen communities where people would break into the container to steal needles, but also scatter them around. (They were available in park restrooms and were smaller metal containers). Due to this, they unfortunately, had to remove the containers.

Please let me know if you have additional questions, I would be happy to discuss further.

Take care,
Niki

From: director bakerlib.org <director@bakerlib.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:36 AM
To: riskmanagement@sdao.com
Subject: REQUEST - Liability risk for proposed outdoor sharps disposal bin at Baker County Library

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Hello SDAO folks,

Baker County Library District has received a proposal from a local addiction counseling agency, New Directions Northwest, Inc., to host a drop box bin for collection of used syringes outdoors on library grounds. Could the Risk Management team provide an assessment on any increased liability risk that may result should the library board accept the proposal?

Installation and maintenance would be provided by NDNW. The goal is to improve community safety by reducing the incidence of unsafe disposal in regular garbage bins or by littering on the ground. While the number of syringes found on district property are very low (6 incidents in 5 years), a drop box initiative by the Health Department in neighboring Malheur County has reported an average collection rate of 20,000 used syringes in recent years and dramatic reduction of unsafely discarded syringes in their communities.

We currently have a community survey open for local feedback on the proposal. So far, the majority (65%) oppose the idea of an outdoor bin, and even more (76%) oppose having a disposal container indoors.

If you can respond by Monday, 12/11, I would like to include SDAO risk assessment comments in a report to the library board on Tuesday, 12/12.

Please contact me with any questions.
Thank you,

Perry Stokes, Director
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