

# Young adults at risk for HCV: Meeting their needs through a model prevention program

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Alice Asher RN MS, Kimberly Page PhD MPH - UCSF

[www.ufomodel.org](http://www.ufomodel.org)



The UFO Model  
*A hep C intervention for young adult IDU*

# The UFO Model intervention

- **What:** The UFO Model is a *multi-component, multi-level* hepatitis education and prevention intervention
- **Who:** UFO serves young adult IDU *under age 30*
- **Why:** Young adult IDUs are at high risk for HCV, HIV, accidental overdose



# UFO Model philosophy

## Core elements

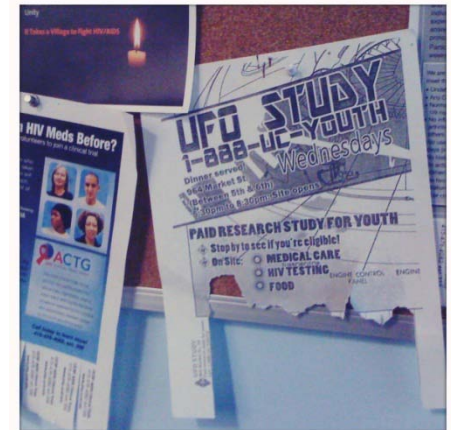
- Harm reduction philosophy
- Youth-centered focus
- Outreach and consistency
- Collaboration and referrals



# UFO Model components

Modular, flexible, adaptable

1. Outreach and education
2. Youth-centered referrals
3. Drop-in center
4. Syringe access
5. Counseling and testing for HCV, and immunizations for HAV, HBV
6. Education and support group







# Issues affecting UFO Model implementation

- HCV testing
  - Access, only antibody, no training
- Hepatitis education
  - Inaccurate materials, misconceptions
- Outreach
  - Young adults population, suburbs, lack of awareness
- Policy
  - Funding disparities; priorities

# Thanks for listening

- More info at: [www.ufomodel.org](http://www.ufomodel.org)
- Questions? Contact Pam DeCarlo  
[pdecarlo@psg.ucsf.edu](mailto:pdecarlo@psg.ucsf.edu)  
(415) 597-9360

