

Ladies Night
~a brief description of an amazing program~

“**Ladies Night**” is held every Thursday evening and provides a comprehensive range of services for women of color, many of who are injection drug users (IDUs), homeless, and/or trade sex to get by.

Ladies Night is located in the San Francisco Mission District and we offer a hot meal, hygiene supplies, syringe exchange, massage, a clothing closet, case management, activities, bathrooms to use and a medical clinic. This amazing program is available one night a week and is a collaboration of three neighborhood providers:

1. **Mission Neighborhood Resource Center (MNRC)**
2. **Women’s Community Clinic (WCC)**
3. **Homeless Youth Alliance (HYA)**

MNRC offers bi-lingual and peer-led HIV testing, case management, substance abuse and mental health counseling, medical and dental care, acupuncture as well as the space to hold Ladies Night. www.mnhc.org

WCC provides staff and volunteers for the operation of Ladies Night and supplies for safer sex and women's health. They also provide critical outreach to, and recruitment of, potential clients for the syringe exchange program, SFNE. www.womenscommunityclinic.org

HYA runs the San Francisco Needle Exchange (SFNE) site at Ladies Night. The point is to improve the quality of life for homeless, female IDUs in the Mission by offering women-specific needle exchange and harm reduction education, individual and group counseling that is both culturally competent and ethnically sensitive, and overdose prevention trainings. www.homelessyouthalliance.org

With a special emphasis on education and empowerment, Ladies Night serves at least 85 women and properly disposes of an approximate 3,000 syringes per month.