

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022- 37 -CM**  
**REAUTHORIZATION OF SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM - GATEWAY TO HOPE**

WHEREAS, the Tippecanoe County Health Department is a “local health department” established under IC 16-20 and within the meaning of IC 16-41-7.6-1;

WHEREAS, under IC 16-20-2-2(b) and (c), the executive of Tippecanoe County was authorized to establish and maintain one local health department having countywide jurisdiction and the executive of Tippecanoe County is authorized to adopt health ordinances that apply to the entire County.

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2016, the Tippecanoe County Health Department declared, in a manner consistent with IC 16-41-7.5-5(1) an epidemic of Hepatitis C in Tippecanoe County, that the primary mode of transmission is through intravenous drug use, and that a syringe exchange program is medically appropriate as part of a comprehensive public health response to the epidemic.

WHEREAS, the Tippecanoe County Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing on November 21, 2016, on the Health Department declaration and public testimony was permitted at the hearing.

WHEREAS, following the public hearing, on November 21, 2016, the Board of Commissioners passed Resolution 2016-32-CM, adopting the declarations of the Tippecanoe County Board of Health, approving the operation of a syringe exchange program, and sending notification of that action to the Indiana State Department of Health with a request that the Commissioner declare a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the program has since been renewed by passage of Resolutions 2017-35-CM (December 4, 2018), 2018-35-CM (December 3, 2018), and 2020-30-CM (November 25, 2020)

following public hearings on each occasion; and

WHEREAS, on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022, the Board of Commissioners has conducted another public hearing and hereby determines that the Syringe Exchange Program has been effective in mitigating the transmission of Hepatitis C but the need for the program continues;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, pursuant to IC 16-41-7.5-11(b)(2), the Tippecanoe County Board of Commissioners hereby renews Tippecanoe County's syringe exchange program for a period of not more than two years for a period beginning December 13, 2022, and ending December 13, 2024. Notification of this renewal shall be transmitted to the State Health Commissioner pursuant to IC 16-41-7.5-11(c)(1).

Duly adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
TIPPECANOE COUNTY

\_\_\_\_\_  
David S. Byers, President

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Tracy A. Brown, Vice President

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Thomas P. Murtaugh, Member

ATTEST:

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Robert Plantenga, Auditor of Tippecanoe County