

## California Fact Sheet



# Pharmaceutical EPR Program: San Mateo County

Rev. 8/02/18

**San Mateo County** started a government funded drug take back program in 2006 with the primary take back locations at law enforcement agencies.<sup>1</sup> This program collected 143,000 pounds of medicines via 14 medicine collection bins in the eight years of its operation.<sup>1</sup> San Mateo County residents were surveyed during this time and only 36% reported using the collection bins.<sup>1</sup> To increase awareness and convenience, **Ordinance No. 04736** was approved and went into effect May 28, 2015.<sup>3</sup> The ordinance puts the responsibilities of designing, developing and funding on the producer rather than the retailers.<sup>1</sup>

**Organizing Body:** MED-Project is the Stewardship Organization which formed to comply with the requirements in **Ordinance No. 04736**. The County approved the plan in August of 2016 with an update as of January 2018.<sup>2</sup>



**Costs & Funding:** **Ordinance No. 04736** requires **ALL producers** to participate in a Stewardship Plan and pay **ALL costs and fees** associated with said plan.<sup>3</sup>

A full list of program participations as of June 8, 2018 can be found on page 12 of “[2017 San Mateo County MED-Project Annual Report](#)”<sup>4</sup>

The **total cost of the program** for the reporting period of the [2017 Annual Report](#) was **\$1,265,795**.<sup>4</sup>

**Program Facts:** A total of **24,660 pounds of unwanted or expired medications** have been collected through MED-Project’s Stewardship Plan.<sup>5</sup>

### Summary of Collection Weights by Source as of 2017<sup>5</sup>

Type of Collection	Weight (lbs.)
Kiosk	23,450
Take Back Events	1,099
Mail Back	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,660</b>

**Collection Locations & Accessibility:**

Through various types of outreach, as of 2017, MED-Project has achieved a **Combined Target Reach Percentage of 97%**.<sup>5</sup> The specific outreach approach can be found in the [Annual Report](#).

All five districts in the County have met the convenience standard of **five kiosks per district**.<sup>5</sup>

**Summary of Convenience Standard Results Per District<sup>5</sup>**

District	No. Kiosks	No. of Mail Back Package Pick Up Locations	No. of Take Back Events
1	11	2	2
2	5	6 (5 active)	4
3	6	7 (3 active)	3
4	9	3	2
5	6	4 (2 active)	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>15 actives</b>	<b>15</b>

**Timeline:**

**2006:** San Mateo County started the first of its kind in the nation medicine collection program.<sup>1</sup>

**May 28, 2015:** Ordinance No. 04736 goes into effect with the purpose of increased convenience.<sup>2</sup>

**May 27, 2016:** Stewardship Plan is submitted by the Producers.<sup>1</sup>

**August 20, 2016:** MED-Project Plan is approved.

**September 13, 2016:** Stewardship Plan is approved.<sup>2</sup>

**November 28, 2016:** Stewardship Plan goes into effect.<sup>2</sup>

**June 12, 2018:** 2017 Annual Report published outlining the success of the program thus far.<sup>1</sup>

**References:**

1. "Safe Medicine Disposal Ordinance" *smchealth* accessed July 2018 [Web](#).
2. "San Mateo County Safe Drug Ordinance Timeline" *smchealth* accessed July 2018 [Web](#).
3. "Ordinance No. 04736" *smchealth* accessed July 2018 [Web](#).
4. "A Product Stewardship Plan" *smchealth* accessed July 2018 [Web](#).
5. "2017 County of San Mateo MED-Project Annual Report" *smchealth* accessed July 2018 [Web](#).