

# DEVELOPING AN EQUAL PLATFORM

FOR PUBLIC HEALTH OUTREACH BETWEEN HEALTH STAFF AND SERVICE USERS

Henrik Thiesen 2022



**SUNDHED**  
IFRONT



# HealthTeam

## Mission

- To provide cohesion and meaning in treatment and support for the individual
- To provide high quality primary healthcare, addiction treatment and harmreduction to homeless people in Copenhagen, combined with clinical research
- To continuously try to break down barriers in social and healthcare systems that contributes to health inequality
- To substantially contribute to the development of Streetmedicine / healthcare for the homeless underprivileged and underserved by developing clinical primary healthcare and research in close collaboration with the public healthcare system, public social services, **NGO's and user organizations**
- To support treatment and Harm Reduction in all services covered by HT's medical service

# Services

- Street outreach & treatment including help to access ordinary health services
- Medical support and management of nurse-clinics
- Medical management of DCR's & in-patient facilities
- Supervising and supporting short in-patient treatment in community facility and in Red Cross facility
  - Approx. 20 beds

# Activities in relation to and cooperation with service users

- HepC finding and referral to treatment in cooperation with Drug consumption room's and Users' Academy
- Overdose reversal / naloxone training initiated 2010 by Danish Drug Users Union
  - Becoming a national scheme including all communities
  - 2019-22
- Outreach for homeless veterans in cooperation with Danish army (2022-2024) and veteran-organizations
- Upcoming Health-outreach focusing on lung disorders / COLD
  - Partners not found yet



Initial kit developed with users





# Jørgen Kjær the first layperson - naloxone trainer





# Training – Drug Users Union





# Training – Drug Users union





♦ Jørgen Kjær Co-author of official report

EVALUERING AF

Forsøg med distribuering af Naloxon  
til stofafhængige til forebyggelse af  
opioid-overdosisdødsfald



Henrik Thiesen, overlæge, teamleder, SundhedsTeam, Center for udsatte voksne og familier

Lone Hviid Rasmussen, ledende sygeplejerske Sundhedsrummet, Mændenes Hjem

Jørgen Kjær, formand for BrugerForeningen

# Naloxone training & HepC

SAVE LIFE, UA & "Ombold"\*



\*Football cup for former and current homeless and drug-users

TED Talk: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvhkKFLfRRU&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvhkKFLfRRU&feature=emb_logo)



**CASE 2**

**DEVELOPMENT OF CRACKPIPE  
PARAPHERNALIA 2010**

# Aims to prevent hepatitis C spreading via homemade crackpipes

- ◆ Initial kit from Vancouver tested by local users
- ◆ Consumer survey over a 3-month period in street-clinic
- ◆ Kit changed according to user-recommendations
- ◆ Local kits assembled by Drug Users Union and payed for by the city





Crack-piber  
Bilkarbonat







# Vancouver kit



17 items

# Copenhagen kit



7 items

CASE 3

PUBLIC HEALTH MOBILE OUTREACH 2018



# Aims to find transmissible diseases and connect to treatment

- ◆ Collaboration between HealthTeam and Users Academy
- ◆ HT and UA were both approaching the same problem from 2 different perspectives and continues to do so
- ◆ UA has access to private funding and HT is a public health organization with access to health-systems

**FIRST STEP WAS A COMBINED SAVE  
LIFE / UA EVENT 2018**



# UA, Hep C PCR-machine rented by HealthTeam and used in DCR 2018

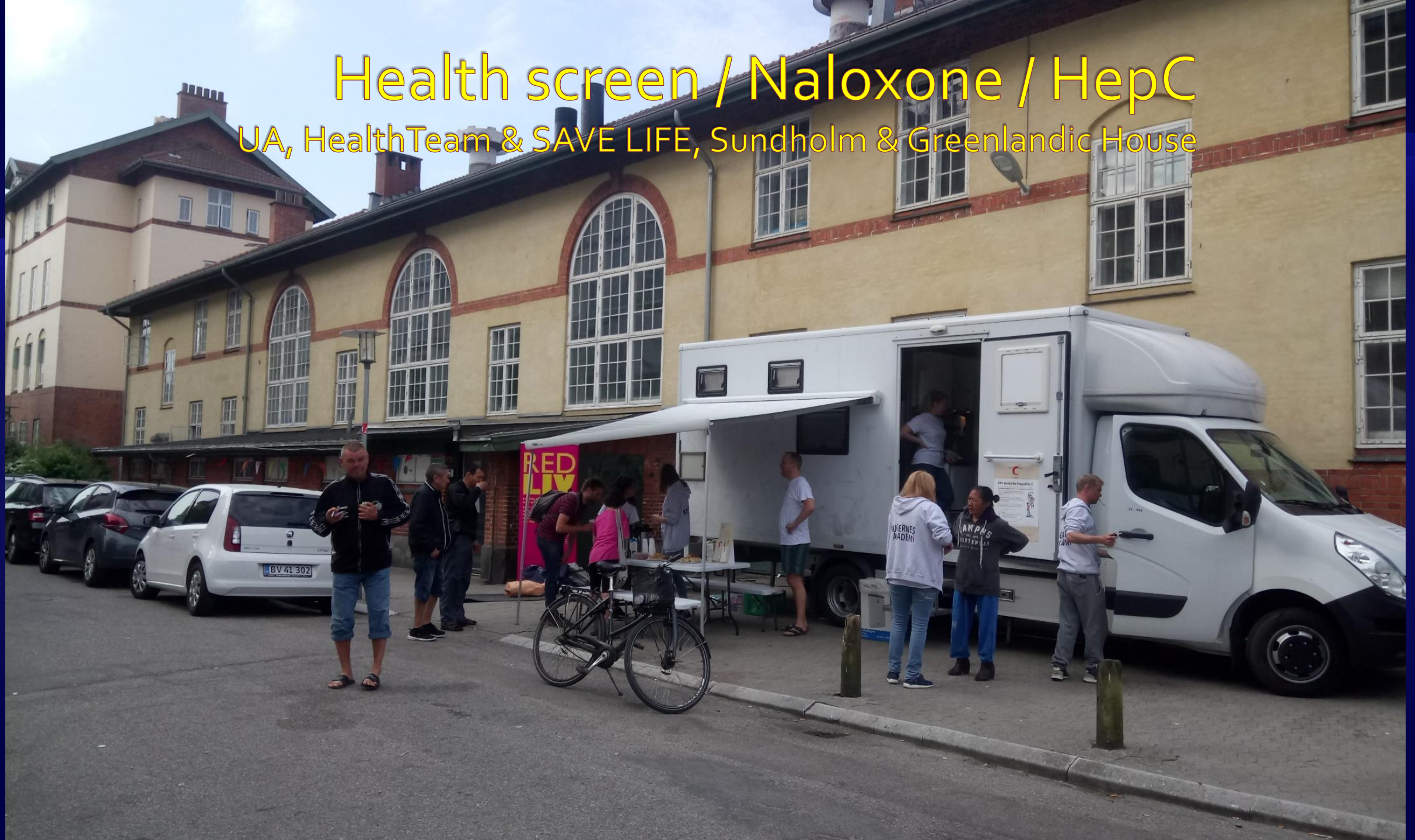


Soon followed by multi-organizational health events but still based on the HT / UA outreach



# Health screen / Naloxone / HepC

UA, HealthTeam & SAVE LIFE, Sundholm & Greenlandic House





# Health screening / Naloxone / HepC

UA, HealthTeam/SAVE LIFE, Christiania Health-Clinic





THANK YOU

# CASE 4: COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT APPROACH WITH "SAND" HOMELESS ORGANIZATION... 2021..22..23..

## YET TO BE DEVELOPED