



Dear Partners, Supporters, and Friends,

I want to extend our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to all our friends and neighbors who are experiencing loss in the wake of this historic disaster. WNCAP is a community-based organization, and when our community suffers, the pain is deeply felt within our ranks.

I am relieved to report that all our staff are safe and accounted for, though this does not mean that everyone has easy access to essentials, or reliable communications. We are doing our best to support each other, and to provide access to counseling and other services.

Our client services teams have been checking in on our most vulnerable clients who are accessible by road, and case managers are providing services and communicating with clients as much as they are able. We will continue these efforts and will return to normal operations as infrastructure is restored.

Our Asheville office was not damaged during the storm, and power has been restored, but there is no running water or internet access. Despite this, we are working to establish fixed-site syringe exchange services with limited hours, from 11am to 3pm. This will begin Friday, October 4, 2024.

Our Franklin office was also intact, and we have re-established harm reduction services there, from 12pm to 4pm, as well as at least one of our usual mobile sites in Jackson County on Wednesdays 2 pm-5 pm. We are assessing our mobile sites in Clay and Graham County.

We will continue to provide updates regarding our services via our website, Facebook and Instagram.

In times of crisis, we at WNCAP find solace and inspiration in our community. We are touched by all the outreach we've received from partners, donors, and volunteers. I am personally moved by all of our staff who have remained eager to help, not only our clients, but each other as well. The only way to recover from tragedies like the one unfolding in our region, is by sticking together and helping one another. I am proud of the WNCAP team, and heartened by all the ways our community is rising to the occasion. I am confident if we continue our collective efforts, we will emerge on the other side of this calamity as a stronger WNC.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Antonio Del Toro'.

Antonio Del Toro