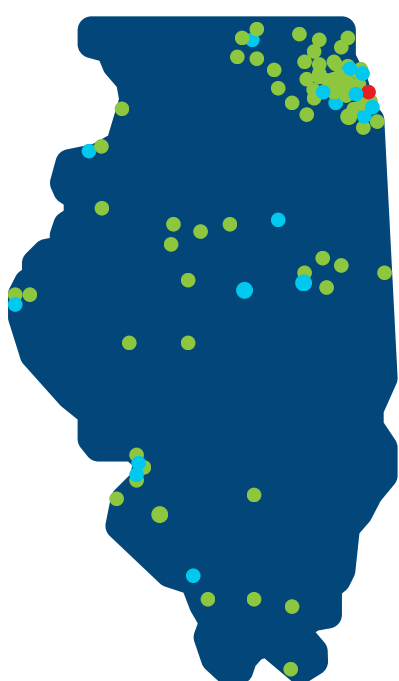


FY23 Safe Storage Pilot Initiative Process Evaluation



The Let's Talk Cannabis safe storage pilot initiative addressed increased accidental edible poisoning among children under 11 in Illinois. The initiative aimed to provide a lockable container and information about safer storage solutions for cannabis edibles to parents/caregivers.



Stash Bag Distribution Partners

76 Illinois Dispensaries

13 Located in R3 Zones

16 Social Equity Licensees

18 Child-Serving State Agencies

1 Department of Children & Family Services

17 Division of Early Childhood Partners

3 University of Chicago Pediatric Departments

Partners helped distribute locking, LTC-branded stash bags to **parents or caregivers who have young children and cannabis at home**. Each bag featured a QR code to the [Let's Talk Cannabis website](#).



Partners also received accessory boxes containing English/Spanish locking instructions, counter mat signage, standing counter signage, and a distribution tracker.

Bags were distributed during times when children were more likely at home or cannabis edible consumption was likely to increase, including summertime, Halloween, and Thanksgiving.



What Partners Had to Say



This program alone will show our community that BE. Dispensary cares for its customers and their children so that anybody who comes in will have peace of mind knowing their cannabis will be secure.

- **BE. Dispensary**

We love this initiative, and it has been very good for our location! We have a lot of parents that have been looking for something like this.

- **Mission Dispensary**

The parents express appreciation for the bags and seem surprised that we offer the stash bags at no cost and judgment-free.

- **Comer Children's Emergency Department**

Clients were very excited and thankful when offered a bag and said they felt better having a place to keep their "stash" safe.

- **Community Child Care Connection**

The adults and police were very happy to see the stash bags being given to residents to aid in protecting the children and animals.

- **Cannabis Equity Illinois Coalition**

Additional Findings



No partners reported issues receiving bags or promotional materials.

33

partners joined through referrals or word of mouth.

Unlikely Family Connection: A pediatric resident at the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital learned about the initiative while rotating on the "Child Advocacy and Protective Services" service. She facilitated a critical partnership by connecting us to her mother, the CEO of a social equity start-up that received six social equity dispensary licenses in Illinois.

89%

found it helpful having marketing materials available in Spanish.

93%

were satisfied or very satisfied with their experience as a distribution partner.

86%

would like to continue supporting the safe storage initiative.