

Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act
STATEWIDE ADVISORY GROUP MEETING SUMMARY
OCTOBER 5, 2001

WELCOME AND DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) Director Kathryn P. Jett welcomed Statewide Advisory Group members, members of the Evaluation Advisory Group, and guests. She provided an update on Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA) activities of ADP, reviewing continuing efforts of to facilitate collaboration and partnership with SACPA stakeholders.

Director Jett also reported that plans are moving forward for ADP to meet with representatives of Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and the Veterans Administration (VA) to explore the effective use of existing member and client drug treatment benefits. Statewide Advisory Group member Dr. Peter Banyis is working with ADP to facilitate these meetings.

PROGRAM UPDATES FROM STATEWIDE ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

Statewide Advisory Group Members provided brief updates on SACPA implementation from their perspectives:

Major issues raised by the Advisory Group members centered around:

1. Provider Input - there were a number of members who cited the need for inclusion of treatment providers as stakeholders in local and state level planning.
2. Public Education - the need for communication plans and strategies to fully inform the public of SACPA was noted. Some members shared plans to host informational public meetings to discuss SACPA, and provide a forum for open discussion.
3. Engagement of Law Enforcement - in order to ensure success, there is a need for education and training in drug addiction and treatment principles for Law Enforcement personnel.
4. Program Outcome - there is a need to determine whether SACPA (1) reduces crimes, (2) results in cost savings, and (3) makes communities safer.

AGREEMENT ON EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Dr. Douglas Longshore of the University of California Los Angeles, presented an overview of the revised Research Questions, Scope, and Data Sources for the SACPA Evaluation that had been agreed to by the Evaluation Data Subcommittee on October 1, 2001. Following a discussion, the Statewide Advisory Group recommended that ADP and UCLA move forward with the process of selecting the focus counties, including consultation with the County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association of California (CADPAAC). Identification should be finalized within 30 days. The final selection decisions will be made by UCLA and ADP and will be reported back to the Statewide Advisory Group.

ADP Deputy Director Susan Nisenbaum provided information on CalTOP, the automated and standardized outcome data collection system being piloted by ADP. There was a discussion of the interface between CADDs (the ADP automated system currently in use statewide), and CalTOP. Strong CADPAAC support was expressed for implementing CalTOP statewide. Following the discussion, the Statewide Advisory Group recommended that ADP and UCLA (1) move forward on "CADDs II," a modified version of the CADDs that includes some treatment outcomes, as quickly as possible, and (2) work to continue CalTOP in some form.

DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL REGULATIONS CHANGES

ADP Deputy Director Del Sayles-Owen reviewed potential regulations changes with the Advisory Group. The topics covered in the review were:

1. Client Fees
2. Out of State Certification
3. Drug Education
4. Stakeholder Involvement
5. Construction Costs

Following a discussion of defendants who are residents of other states, the Group recommended that the issue be referred to its Cross-Jurisdictional Subcommittee and to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Proposition 36 Workgroup.

Concern was raised about tracking and reporting "additional services" (also known as ancillary services) and assigning cost. The concern related to how the tracking and reporting are addressed and the potential of it becoming a burden for providers.

Several members of the Advisory Group suggested that regulations be developed to permit "counseling" to be provided by non-licensed individuals and require "therapy" to continue to be provided by licensed individuals. An added section on "family counseling" could effectively address this issue.

Since collaboration beyond the planning period was not addressed in SACPA, an ADP All County Lead Agency (ACLA) letter to address the issue was presented for review and discussion. Members reiterated the need for on-going stakeholder involvement in SACPA implementation at the county level. A required minimum of regularly-scheduled quarterly meetings was suggested. Concern was expressed about not having treatment providers identified as stakeholders, and consensus was that they should be. After review and discussion of the draft letter, the Advisory Group agreed that ADP will review the concerns expressed and finalize the letter which will be sent out without further Advisory Group review.

In the discussion regarding construction costs associated with serving SACPA clients, concerns were raised about retaining SACPA use if the facility changes ownership, as well as the need for flexibility regarding caps on construction spending and meeting local needs. The suggestion was made that Housing and Urban Development (HUD) language may address the ownership change issue.

UPDATE ON STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE TO ADP

Deputy Director Sayles-Owen provided an update on the status of the Statewide Advisory Group recommendations to ADP.

1. Confidentiality: Based on recent feedback, there is not a current need for standard forms.
2. Guidelines for Out-of-County Convictions: An ACLA letter was sent to counties to address this issue.
3. Dual Diagnosis Task Force: ADP will continue to work with this group.
4. Implementation Meeting and Technical Assistance Conference: ADP will host this meeting on November 5, 2001 in Sacramento with representation invited from all counties.
5. ACLA Letter Regarding Local Stakeholder Involvement: There is a strong desire for ADP to issue the letter regarding full representation on local county SACPA advisory committees without further review and comment from CADPAAC. Stakeholders want a letter that requires regular meetings and that expands the scope of those involved in the decision-making advisory process to include providers.
6. SB 233: This legislation which will provide funds from SAPT for SACPA drug testing is awaiting the Governor's signature. The suggestion was made to look at using block grant methodology for the SAPT funds involved rather than the SACPA allocation methodology planned.

7. Parolee Services: A subcommittee of the Advisory Group was established to identify and discuss issues regarding parolee services under SACPA. Volunteers for the subcommittee were identified.

REVIEW OF NEXT STEPS

A future meeting schedule was mutually agreed to by the Statewide Advisory Group members. The meetings will be held on:

December 14, 2001

January 11, 2002

February 8, 2002