

**Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA)
STATEWIDE ADVISORY GROUP MEETING SUMMARY
September 16, 2002**

WELCOME AND DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kathryn P. Jett, Director, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP), welcomed the Statewide Advisory Group attendees. Director Jett updated attendees on recent developments affecting the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA):

- The data collection and reporting system that ADP developed under the California Treatment Outcome Pilot (CalTOP) is funded to go to statewide implementation. Now called the California Outcomes Measurement System (CalOMS), this major project will assist in measuring outcomes for SACPA and other clients in California's publicly funded treatment system.
- The work of the Counselor Certification Workgroup is continuing. The Workgroup is drafting regulations that would require individuals providing treatment services to be certified and/or credentialed.
- A new Co-Occurring Disorders Workgroup has been created. The goal is to identify barriers and suggest solutions to effectively treat this complex population. The charge of the group includes the whole range of the population with co-occurring disorders, including those who may be in treatment under criminal justice supervision.
- The Little Hoover Commission is continuing its study of alcohol and other drug treatment in California.
- ADP met with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) which reported that its Proposition 36 Committee will continue for another year.
- The "Making It Work! 2003" Technical Assistance Conference on SACPA will be held February 3-5, 2003, in San Diego.

LONG-TERM EVALUATION REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Larry Carr, ADP Office of Applied Research and Analysis, and Dr. Douglas Longshore, University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), reported on the SACPA Long-Term Evaluation. The draft first-year report was released to the Statewide Advisory Group and the Evaluation Advisory Group in July. The purpose of this review was to receive the group's input and comments.

After Dr. Carr's and Dr. Longshore's presentations, the meeting was opened for comment. At the conclusion, Director Jett recapped the issues addressed by members:

- The engagement of local law enforcement in the evaluation process is crucial.
- The evaluation should focus on capturing local law enforcement concerns in the design, including the impact of SACPA on crime rates, the rate and extent of failure to report to court, and offenders that go county to county.
- Care should be taken in the scope of data collected. The evaluation should not be overly broad or contain too much or unneeded information and data.
- More data should be collected on parole clients.
- The evaluation should examine SACPA clients versus offenders who do not participate in treatment.
- Questions that are asked should be objective.

Dr. Carr stated that he would facilitate communication between the Advisory Group and UCLA regarding the evaluation.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

Dotty Diemer, Vice President of Rogers & Associates, gave a presentation about the SACPA Public Education Plan. Development of the plan was funded by The California Endowment through the University of California at San Diego. The public campaign itself has not yet been funded. The plan, based on public opinion research, includes a multi-faceted approach to help educate the general public and opinion leaders about the need for drug treatment and to sustain and build support for community-based drug treatment centers. Specific evaluation and assessment measures are built into the proposed campaign plan.

Ms. Diemer reported on her firm's SACPA research and findings regarding public attitudes toward SACPA as well as other drug use and treatment issues.

- Illegal drug use and related crime are viewed as serious problems.
- The public continues to favor treatment over incarceration.
- The public has fairly realistic expectations of measurement of SACPA success.
- The public has mixed expectations about the effectiveness of drug treatment.
- The location of SACPA treatment centers is important; the less that people know about drug treatment, the more apprehensive they are to have one located in their neighborhood.
- Most are unclear about what a treatment facility is like.
- Straightforward language should be used when describing SACPA.
- A medical expert is the most credible spokesperson on drug issues.

STATE REPORT

Del Sayles-Owen, Deputy Director, ADP Office of Criminal Justice Collaboration (OCJC), followed with her report which included:

- Reports – Two SACPA reports are required:
 1. The report on the long-term evaluation conducted by UCLA; and
 2. An Annual Report to the Legislature. ADP's report is under state review and will include the first six months of data collected.
- Allocations
 1. Under the present allocation formula, ADP updates data on treatment arrests, caseload, and population once a year before issuing the preliminary allocation. This approach helps to add stability to the allocation process.
 2. At the direction of the Statewide Advisory Group, ADP has taken deliberation of the SACPA allocation formula to the ADP Fiscal Workgroup.
- Parolee Services – The next meeting of the Parolee Services Committee was announced for late October. On October 1, 2002, the Department of Corrections plans to implement a redesign of the SACPA process for parolees. The program is expected to be fully implemented in January 2003 with control at the local level.
- Emerging Issues
 - Some providers and counties have been concerned about negotiated rates for SACPA clients. A policy letter is under development.
 - Counties are permitted to pay for "probation department costs, court monitoring costs and any miscellaneous costs made necessary" by SACPA. ADP will seek to clarify what costs are allowable under this provision.
 - A question has arisen regarding certification of Drug Medi-Cal programs that provide SACPA services. ADP is working to clarify which programs are eligible to provide services to SACPA clients.
 - Some counties are seeking to provide an additional six months of narcotic replacement therapy as a component of SACPA aftercare. ADP is analyzing the applicable provisions of the law and regulations and the placement of aftercare within the continuum of care.
 - Interest has been expressed in using SACPA funds to help SACPA participants who have successfully completed treatment understand how to have charges dismissed under SACPA. ADP is examining the issue and exploring alternatives.
 - Some judges have reportedly found nonviolent drug offenders using marijuana for medical purposes to be unamenable to treatment. ADP is looking at this issue.
 - Some counties have been unclear how to calculate the 12 months in treatment for SACPA clients. ADP will issue guidance defining the beginning and end of treatment for funding purposes.

NEXT STEPS

The next meeting was scheduled for October 11, 2002. The emerging issues addressed by Del Sayles-Owen will be among the agenda items.