

**Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA)  
STATEWIDE ADVISORY GROUP SUMMARY  
February 6, 2004**

**WELCOME**

Director Kathryn Jett gave a brief welcome. She shared that we have an aggressive administration and that Secretary of the Health and Human Services Agency Kim Belshé has a strong public policy orientation. Director Jett said she is looking forward to the opportunity to dialogue with the Secretary. Jett also shared that the Governor's budget rests upon the passage of Propositions 57 and 58. Failure of these ballot measures could have a grim impact on the State. Jett commented that "maintenance of efforts" requirements could be impacted, jeopardizing Federal funding.

On a regulatory note, Jett commented that Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs' (ADP) proposed counselor certification regulations have been released for public comment. A copy can be found on ADP's website.

**CHECK IN AND PROGRAM UPDATES**

Members engaged in a roundtable discussion and commentary on the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA).

- Several individuals, including judges, police chiefs, sheriffs, district attorneys, and public defenders met informally to discuss the future of Proposition 36.
- Sacramento County commented that things are going well. However, there is some staff turnover in the public defenders and probation offices. Sacramento County's report on Proposition 36 may be complete as early as mid 2004. At that time, recidivism data will be shared.
- A representative of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department commented that sheriffs are very interested in SACPA issues and how they can help. Members also shared that the sheriffs will work with counties to find alternatives to incarceration.

County Data:

- A Los Angeles County report showed 9,856 new defendants. The report also indicates an 82 percent success rate in the court for Proposition 36 program completion. Those that were not assessed were at bench warrant status. Los Angeles also reported that 1300 clients completed treatment in the second Fiscal Year (FY). 500 clients had their cases dismissed, but the county will wait for clients' fees to be paid to expunge cases.
- Drug of choice remains the same in Los Angeles County; there are 5,000 participants in treatment services. A large percent of clients in Proposition 36 are sentenced by the court and the remaining percentage comes from Paroles. Los Angeles County is seeing a trend of Parole clients coming into the system. Los

Angeles County's treatment numbers are going up as there are 7,000-8,000 clients currently in treatment.

- In regard to co-occurring disorders, Los Angeles County is requiring contracted providers to provide data and to capture issues around co-occurring disorders. The County expects to eventually have solid data on SACPA clients with dual diagnosis.
- Santa Clara County reported that there are 6,273 participants in Proposition 36; 756 completers in fiscal year 2002-03; and 1500 participants successfully completing treatment overall.
- Members noted that the main item to be addressed is the future funding of Proposition 36 and the need to have dialogue with criminal justice.
- A member noted a continuing problem with access to methadone in some counties.
- Another member reported problems with small counties. The client flow is not supporting capacity and some counties are now facing audit issues and repayment. Similarly, another small county is discontinuing its Driving Under the Influence services. There was concern that the current Proposition 36 requirements are not flexible enough to accommodate their unique circumstances.

Director Jett reiterated the purpose of the Statewide Advisory Group as discussions regarding the future of Proposition 36 begins. ADP will continue to look to the group for advice on implementing what the Legislature and communities have asked for. The Statewide Advisory Group can serve as a forum for discussing program issues and best practices, but we expect that it will be individual stakeholders approaching the legislature with proposals for the program.

#### **UPDATE ON SACPA ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY**

Al Senella, President, California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives, reported that the Fiscal Workgroup (FWG) recommended at the last Statewide Advisory Group Meeting that ADP adopt the formula 50 percent standard methodology; 30 percent SACPA treatment caseload and 20 percent arrest data.

At the previous Statewide Advisory Group meeting, there was dialogue on the feasibility of a 50 percent standard methodology; 40 percent SACPA treatment caseload; and 10 percent arrest data. Senella reported that the FWG found this formula to be consistent with its principles and agreed that this formula would be supported if adopted.

Senella also reported on the issue of carryover funds. The FWG considered the recommendation that counties volunteer to return excess funds and that all the counties submit a multi-year plan to identify excess funds. Therefore, in FY 2004/05, counties

will submit a multi-year plan and may include an expenditure plan for six months after the sunset date of the program.

Members inquired about the counties receiving two preliminary allocation letters. Del Sayles-Owen clarified that the counties will receive a letter listing preliminary allocations under both the current allocation formula and the proposed formula. The counties will be asked to base their county plan projections on the proposed allocation methodology formula.

Al Senella commented that drug testing formula will remain steady. Senella also noted that the allocation methodology change reflects continued Proposition 36 growth.

### **UPDATE ON THE COUNTY EVALUATION REPORTS**

Larry Carr, PhD., Deputy Director, Office of Applied Research and Analysis, reported on the information requested by the Statewide Advisory Group members on evaluating current county data reflecting the success of Proposition 36 and a description of how this information was obtained. Carr's presentation also included some county-supplied Proposition 36 treatment completion rates, cost savings, crime trends, and local best practices. There is an increasing need for outcome data sets but these are currently not available. Additionally, there was limited cost information available.

Although it was expected that Carr would be able to report on data from all 58 counties, he only received data from 15 counties. The following highlights were reported:

- San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Los Angeles, and Sacramento counties had good criminal justice collaborative teams and best practices.
- With information that was made available for June 2003, the completion rate was 27 percent for 3 of the 15 counties. However, UCLA data showed a 35 percent completion rate. The difference between the two rates is due to the counties' more rigorous definition of "completion".
- Three out of the 15 counties, reported 43 percent of clients remaining in treatment from the beginning of SACPA through January 2004.
- San Diego, Lassen, and San Luis Obispo treatment costs for Proposition 36 clients equaled \$3,300 to \$4,000 per client, annually (does not include court costs).

### **NEXT STEPS FOR STATEWIDE ADVISORY GROUP**

Members contributed the following as potential agenda items for the next Statewide Advisory Group meeting to be held on April 2, 2004, in Sacramento:

- Update on UCLA Evaluation
  - UCLA Trend Data
  - UCLA Report

- Recidivism Data
  - Definition of success in treatment
  - Parolee Subcommittee Activities
  - Smaller/rural county issues
  - Continuation of the SACPA sentencing mandate
  - County waiting lists
  - Update on potential consolidation of ADP and Department of Health Services

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m.