

Sonoma County Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Problems

Monthly Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2008 5 – 7 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Trey Dunia
Edi Patrick
Marvin Mars
John Abrahams
Kevin McConnell

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Bruce Oppenheim

STAFF PRESENT

Gino Giannavola, AODS
Barbara Graves, Prevention & Planning
Angela Avery, AODS

PROVIDERS & GUESTS

Cheryle Stanley, WRS
Michael Spielman, DAAC
Jenna McAdam, Athena House
Tanya Sarcos, SRTP
John Marchesiello, prospective
board member
Michael McCracken, Counselor,
Project Success, Analy HS
Aaron Fen Ley, Project Success.
Analy HS
Christina Goodwin, Project
Success, Analy HS

Called to order at 5:15 pm, by Trey Dunia

I. Public Comment

None

II. Action Items

- April minutes approved.
Presentation: Analy High School's Project Success is a grant-funded collaborative program through SCOE. The program provides screening, referrals for services in the community, Alcohol and Drug awareness campaigns and outreach to student, faculty and parents. The project began during Alcohol Awareness Month (April 2008) – participation grew from four students to thirty-six within weeks. Thus far, 30 to 40 students have been referred to the program.

The goals of the program include harm reduction and increasing awareness. They are starting to focus on younger students and may begin outreach with other schools – primarily middle school. The Analy students will start the fall with a campaign targeting incoming freshman.

DAAC is beginning the startup process for Project Success in the Cotati-Rohnert Park School District and will visit the Analy High School program for ideas in setting up their program.

The students have discussed creating a care group that will target high-risk individuals. There is a nucleus of parents and faculty interested in forming a workgroup.

Mr. McCracken would like to send 10 students to NTLP (National Team Leadership Program) this summer. The cost is \$350 per person and fundraising is forthcoming.

The board approved a motion of support for the Analy High School Project Success program. A letter of support will be sent out by Trey Dunia.

III. SACPA (Prop 36) Update

- ADP originally stated the SACPA plan and application would be due at the end of May but subsequently granted an extension to June 30th.
- Fiscal year 08-09 SACPA/OTP preliminary allocations have been reduced by \$450,000. In addition, the planned delay in the 07-08 cuts for \$250,000 is applied to the 08-09 fiscal year for a total of \$700,000. The SACPA Steering Committee has created a plan for reductions to be effective July 1, 2008. If not, the effective date may be October 1st and the cuts will be deeper. Proposed cuts list is attached.

The Steering Committee reviewed no show rates, retention rates and completion rates for providers to help determine the cuts. Proposed reductions as follows: residential services 54%; narcotic treatment services 25%; outpatient services 37%; and beds at Sober Living Environments 50%.

The overall staffing of the SACPA program is less than when the program started seven years ago. Probation is still looking into cutting another half-time person from the program.

The Assembly and the Senate had rejected the SACPA reductions in the governor's budget, but the reductions remain in the May Revise.

The SACPA/OTP allocation formula was discussed from the ADP handouts, which outlined caseload and arrest rates per county. Our past caseload reductions increased the amount of reductions. The reduction plan will go forward to the CAO this week.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

- Community Education: The Older Adults conference was a great success. About one hundred people and eleven exhibitors attended. Introductory speeches by Dr. Mary Maddux-Gonzales and Shirley Zane prior to the main speaker Patrick Abore. The advisory board will send out "Thank You"

notices to the subcommittee and Shirley Zane, Council on Aging. The subcommittee will meet with Ruth Lincoln next week.

- The Board of Supervisors recognized the Education Subcommittee while acknowledging older adult services month.
- CalOMS published statewide statistics on older adults. AODS compared the state data to Sonoma County and discussed the differences. The numbers reflect people in the treatment system only and are not representative of the general population.

V. Prevention Division Update

- There was an article in the Press Democrat regarding the Raven Theatre's application for a license to serve alcohol inside the theatre. Initial plans to allow minors 18-20 with ID checking for alcohol consumption were shot down; they are now looking to restrict theatre admission to 21 and over. The Environmental Teen Drinking Prevention Coalition is organizing protests. Healdsburg teens and parents are organizing efforts to collect signatures. They have over 200 signatures from the community to send to the ABC.
- A number of years ago, Santa Rosa developed a "conditional use permit" (CUP) that controls off-sale environments and creates standard conditions to tighten the way alcohol is being sold. The county, in conjunction with the city of Santa Rosa, is in the process of redeveloping the Roseland area and wants to align the County ordinance with the Santa Rosa ordinance. The county planning department recommended a CUP for the Roseland area. Prevention and Planning staff, with the backing of the Sheriff, advocated successfully for the development of a countywide CUP. The planning commission also made a commitment to look at a countywide on-sale CUP. A coalition, including Petaluma and Sebastopol officials will testify to the Board of Supervisors.
- The Meth Task Force is finalizing its recommendations and will present them to the Board of Supervisors on Sept. 16th, and at the DAAC summit on Sept. 17th. Major recommendations include:
 - Develop a core set of indicator data to track over time the scope and impact of drug use within our county.
 - Strengthen Health and Prevention education in schools, educate teachers, counselors in regular trainings, look at policies within the school environments (i.e. zero tolerance policies that cause kids to be kicked out of school, severely raising their risk level); develop alternatives.
 - Broaden and enhance public education, enrich the understanding of resources available.

The task force would like to target high-risk children of substance abusing families and identify them early on in the cycle. They are also interested in

reaching transitional youth (dropped out of school, not linked to any institution).

Recommendations about the treatment system include:

- Provide treatment on demand. Enhance the geographic availability of treatment. Prioritize treatment for pregnant and/or parents and non-criminal justice clients.
- Develop a transitional support system for people coming out of treatment – give them a safe, secure place to live and stay sober.
- Early entry into treatment – use all of the strategies including NIATx to draw in clients.

The task force has reached the conclusion that they should make one over-arching system with the intention of addressing all substance abuse. The task force does not have an active website.

- Prevention and Planning will put out an RFA this summer with \$165,000 funding to expand Project Success and parent project programs throughout the community. Their strategy includes:
 - Put a safety net in every high school in which they screen, assess and refer out at risk students.
 - Put in place a mechanism to identify kids who need treatment.
 - Seek Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) matching funds to augment and build capacity for addressing mental health issues.

Michael Spielman just came from a MHSA meeting, in the zero to five group, they are looking to prioritize services for drug-abusing moms. This could tie in to the Drug Free Babies (DFB) program. At the last DFB meeting, they discussed trying to have the advisory board revive the dormant "Policy and Advocacy" subcommittee to do advocacy on the local, state and federal level.

VI. AODS Division Update

AODS FY 08-09 budget is still not balanced. At the February meeting, AODS outlined proposed changes to meet a \$700,000 shortfall, which included a transfer of services from the Orenda Center to contractors. The CAO requested additional options – after several revisions, we hope there may be a revision plan that the department and the CAO agree on.

During the budget process, the department succeeded in reducing the shortfall target from \$700,000 to about \$500,000. The CAO agreed to allow a one-time use of audit reserve funds, bringing the target down to \$310,000.

Option I reductions includes:

- A. Outpatient services reduced by .6 FTE counselor.
- B. Closure of one of the transition facilities (six beds); and elimination of the 4 to 6 hour hold program in detox. 2 FTE reduction.
- C. Reduce education sessions at Juvenile Hall .25 FTE counselor
- D. Reduce TASC Jail staffing by .15 FTE counselor.

Other reduction options include:

- E. Increase fee for 4-6 hour holds and keep the program.
- F. Reduce Drug Testing
- G. Cut one bed from Drug Court, cut some anger management groups.
- H. Reduce ATP (Adolescent Treatment Program) by \$24,000
- I. Eliminate about 14 inmate beds in community treatment.
- J. Reduce the Perinatal program by \$26,000
- K. Reduce Orenda residential down from 20 beds to 18 beds.

Unlike the original plan to transfer services from Orenda to contractors, each of the options above will reduce services available to the community. The Board and the CAO are asking for additional analysis of the Orenda plan over the next six months, looking at the 09/10 budget process.

There will be reassignments but no layoffs with the plan denoted A,B,C,and D. The SACPA Steering Committee reviewed the SACPA/OTP reduction plan and recommended its implementation as of July 1, 2008.

The advisory board passed a motion to support the original plan to transfer services from Orenda to contractors. If the department and/or CAO find this plan unacceptable, the advisory board recommends adoption of the plan denoted A,B,C,and D above. The advisory board based their decision on having the least impact for the clients and community while achieving sustainability of services over the years.

VII. Roundtable Discussion

DAAC: Michael did an analysis of the impact of cutting beds at Turning Point. To keep staffing ratios in line, funding for every bed cut equals two beds at Turning Point.

DAAC will have a new perinatal location in July or August, in the same location as the WIC program. The 5200 sq.ft. space will be used by Perinatal in the morning and Drug Court in the afternoon.

SRTP: Everything is going as usual.

Athena House: Things are going well. They are working on a plan for a track for older adults (starting at younger than 55). They will need more staff and are looking for funding. Jenna really appreciates all that Gino does to try to keep services available in the community.

WRS: I second that. Since the last meeting, three new babies have been born alcohol, drug and tobacco free. They have two pregnant women in the program. WRS is celebrating their 9th year of being a smoke-free treatment program. Our clients receive a smoking patch as soon as they walk through the door.

Athena House: Our smoking saga continues - we are working on consequences. They found a horrible film about the effects of smoking and make anyone caught smoking watch it. They also have incentives, like receiving a Starbucks card if they call 1-800-no-butts.

John Abrahams: I received a call from Paul Payne, a reporter from the Press Democrat looking for a quote regarding the closing of St. Anthony's Farm. I took a public position against treatment leaving the county.

Angela Avery: You have a handout showing options for the July advisory board meeting day and location. The board is to decide which option best meets their needs.

The board will keep the same date and time, 7-16 at 5pm, and meet at the board chambers (575 Administration Drive, Room 102A). Reminders will be sent out to attendees with the agenda. The June meeting will be held at the DHS Rotunda. Our September meeting place will be determined.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Next Meeting: June 18, 2008
DHS Rotunda, 3313 Chanate Road Santa Rosa, CA 95401