

# Sonoma County Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Problems

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Monthly Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2008 5 – 7 p.m.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Trey Dunia  
Edi Patrick  
Marvin Mars  
John Abrahams  
Kevin McConnell

## MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Bruce Oppenheim  
John Marchesiello

## STAFF PRESENT

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

## PROVIDERS & GUESTS

Elizabeth Ward, SRTP  
Cheryle Stanley, WRS  
Michael Spielman, DAAC

Called to order at 5:13 pm, by Trey Dunia

### **I. Public Comment**

None

### **II. Action Items**

- May minutes approved.

### **III. SACPA (Prop 36) Update**

- The Steering Committee met yesterday. The meeting date was moved to Tuesday to accommodate Judge Owens' schedule.
- **County budget passed:** Reductions totaling \$756,000 will come out of the SACPA and OTP 08/09 budgets. The reductions will be in two phases – reductions delayed from 07/08 budget, and the preliminary allocation in the governor's budget.

#### SACPA

\$498,000 reduction

We had 16.7 inmate beds cut to 5.4 beds

94 outpatient slot cut to 74 slots

#### OTP

\$258,000 reduction

5.2 beds cut to 3.75 beds

100 outpatient slots cut to zero slots

The SACPA staffing reductions, as a result of budget, include one less probation officer, one less counselor and one less intake worker. Staffing for the SACPA program will be less than staffing when the program started seven years ago.

The SACPA plan is prepared for the state. The total number of clients to be served has dropped from 600 in 07/08 to 400 in 08/09. We will need to work with the court to try to minimize the waitlist due to staffing shortages. The program will be able to process 35 to 40 clients per month. We will work with the courts to determine the best method of keeping the referrals down.

- **Review of NORA initiative:** Both the SACPA Steering Committee and the Criminal Justice Council will review NORA and prepare a report for the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. Questions include:

1. If NORA passes, what does it mean operationally for Sonoma County?
2. What is the impact of the adolescent services section of the initiative?
3. What is the population we will be serving? Is it different from our current SACPA population?

The National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) has taken a position opposing NORA. The Correctional Officers Association is neutral at this time.

The advisory board will form a subcommittee to take an official position on the NORA initiative next month. The board is also interested in hosting public forums on NORA; Gino will arrange through CADPAAC. The target date for the forums will be September or October.

#### IV. Subcommittee Reports

- **Community Education:** Project Success at Analy High School has been renamed "Club 141". The group has planned for events over the summer, including "Parent's Day" scheduled for tomorrow. The group has funded ten attendees for a leadership event in Sacramento.

- **Senior Committee:** The committee decided to postpone the next meeting until September. The next proposed conference will be in September.

An article in the NY Times noted an upward trend in admissions for clients over 40 years of age. The rise in admissions for men was noted at 44%, while for women, it was noted at 82%.

Due to budgetary issues, both AODS and Prevention divisions will not be able to provide ongoing staff support to this project or the committee. The advisory board would like to see another organization sponsor the project, particularly one involved in senior services. Michael Spielman of DAAC will speak with Shirley Zane of the Council on Aging. We may also look to the Area Agency on Aging to integrate the committee into their network. There may be grants available to fund staff for an ongoing committee and project.

The main goals of the committee are to hold yearly conferences, educate senior providers of AOD issues and locate programs and facilities to send seniors with AOD problems.

Marvin will take the issue of the spin off to the next committee meeting in September. AODS and Prevention will have staff at the next meeting to develop

a plan for the shift of sponsorship. Diane Kaljian from Human Services will be invited to attend.

#### V. **Prevention Division Update**

- **ADP conference:** Both AODS and Prevention and Planning have staff attending the ADP conference in Burlingame this week.
- **National Association of Counties (NACo):** NACo will hold a Meth Prevention Conference in Albuquerque at the end of July. Prevention and Planning division staff, two law enforcement representatives, and possibly Michael Spielman of DAAC will attend the conference.
- **Mental Health Services Act (MHSA):** The MHSA steering committee age based workgroups are beginning to gel. Project Success has been identified as a recommended strategy for its age group. They would like to see a safety net in every high school with screening for AOD involvement, assessment, and follow-up.

The senior group is paying little attention to AOD issues. They are trying to implement "Impact", an interactive program for seniors. The screening process of Impact leaves out questions associated with AOD issues. Marvin may wish to become involved in this process.

#### VI. **AODS Division Update**

- **Budget:** The AODS budget for 08/09 will have the following reductions effective July 1<sup>st</sup>: Reduce .6 FTE (full time equivalent) from the Orenda Outpatient program. Reduce .25 FTE from the Juvenile Hall program. Reduce .15 FTE from the TASC program. Reduce 4.5 inmate beds in the community. An additional reduction effective October 1<sup>st</sup> will close the Ruth House 6 bed transition facility.

DHS is appealing the 4.5 inmate bed cut. The department is preparing a report to be presented to the Board of Supervisors during final budget hearings that will compare the 4.5 bed cut to the 4 to 6 hour hold program at Orenda for consideration and final approval.

- **Youth Stats:** A chart on Meth use in Sonoma County, compared to CalOMS statewide numbers, was distributed to members and discussed. Meth use is still a problem in Sonoma County – 38% to 75% of clients (depending on which program) claim it as Drug of Choice. The advisory board would like to see the same statistics broken down by ethnicity as well as different age spreads.

#### VII. **Roundtable Discussion**

**DAAC:** Michael is in the MHSA steering committee workgroup for ages 0-5. He is battling to have the group fund a therapist for early intervention, focusing on perinatal clients, the homeless and the population with mentally ill parents. If funded, the therapist will work with the three perinatal services to prevent future mental illness for families under stress or with abuse and neglect.

They are looking at the Triple P program, which has media approaches and actual interventions.

The Turning Point program has one empty bed out of its 134-bed capacity. SASCA is providing a seemingly endless supply of clients. The SASCA clients are all Sonoma County residents. Five weeks ago, the program accepted 10 clients on one day – all ten are still in the program. Though many come directly from San Quentin, the SASCA clients are not prisoners while in the program. Turning Point will not take clients with pending hearings. There are three levels of SASCA clients: Regular SASCA clients, 1453 clients and ICDPT<sub>2</sub> clients.

**WRS:** Cheryl of WRS and Michael of DAAC attended Susan Moore's "No Name" women's political activist group meeting at Varenna. They felt well received. They each brought a client – one clean for 5 years and the other for 7 years. The clients did an outstanding job of speaking. An audience member spoke about women who graduated from these programs who went on to get Human Services certificates.

The perinatal policy was distributed to the group. Both organizations will give two tours in July and August, and invited the group to visit the programs. The advisory board is also invited to attend the tours.

Gino applauded the collaborative effort of these two community based organizations.

Cheryle brought and distributed fliers advertising WRS' bicycle raffle fundraiser.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Next Meeting: July 16, 2008  
Freeman & Freeman conference room, 2255 Challenger Way, Room 102  
Santa Rosa, CA 95407