

# Sonoma County Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Problems

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Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2004: 5 - 7

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

John Abrahams, Chair  
Harmony Galford  
Steve Thomas  
Marvin Mars  
Tammy Cotter  
Deborah Williams  
Trey Dunia

## **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Bill Redder  
Michael Falk

## **STAFF PRESENT**

Gino Giannavola  
Barbara Graves  
Sarah Moore

## **PROVIDERS & GUESTS**

Cheryle Stanley, Women's' Recovery Services  
Jenna McAdam, Athena House  
Michael Spielman, Drug Abuse Alternatives Center

### **I. Public Comment**

No public comment.

### **II. Review of Minutes**

June and July minutes were approved as written.

### **III. Subcommittee Reports**

#### Policy Development/Advocacy Subcommittee

The conference on Land Use Approaches to the Prevention of Community Alcohol Problems is scheduled for November 17, 2004, at the Doubletree in Rohnert Park. The subcommittee went to a meeting for the Law Enforcement Chiefs' Association. The Association liked the idea and will be co-sponsors for the conference.

They are planning to invite about 50 people. They would like it to be small enough to invite interaction and conversation. There is some interest from Marin, Mendocino, and Napa, so representatives from those counties will be invited as well. Barbara Graves thanked board members Steve Thomas and John Abrahams for their support in planning this conference.

The board members would like to know who is attending the conference from their districts. Barbara Graves will let them know when the list is confirmed.

Action Item: A proposal was set forth to cancel the November meeting of the Sonoma County Advisory Board on Alcohol and Other Drug Problems, because this would be the same day as the conference.

The motion to cancel the meeting was not carried. The meeting will be held as scheduled on November 17, 2004.

#### Community Education

De Williams has been participating in the PSAT (Perinatal Substance Abuse Team), and has been impressed with what they are doing. They are working to strengthen the links between providers and services, and to increase community education and engagement around perinatal substance abuse issues. Ultimately, they hope to increase capacity in the community for these services.

The Glen Price Group, which has a contract with the county to provide grant training, is extending the opportunity for grant seeking training to county contractors as well. Interested contractors should contact Cathleen Wolford, at (707) 565-6949.

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

The regulations that changed the allocation formula for Proposition 36 will be voted on by CADPAAC. Several counties objected during the public comment period. The new allocation has been incorporated into the budget, so adjustments would be required if the regulations were to change.

The UCLA study report on Prop.36 will be released next Monday, on September 20<sup>th</sup>. ADP does not feel that the report portrays an accurate picture of the program and will be releasing an additional report. Sonoma County will provide information from their results after the Board of Supervisors approves that information.

State audits on Prop.36 have listed an exception on post-discharge probation costs. Sonoma County is developing a system to avoid this problem.

#### **V. Recovery Happens/Faces of Recovery**

The Sacramento Kick-off Rally was a successful, well-attended event. Sonoma County brought 112 clients and staff to the rally. Among others, Senator Debra Bowen announced that she was in recovery, and gave a motivational speech.

The Sonoma County event will be a lot of fun, and everyone is welcome to attend. Marlus Stewart of DAAC will be the softball commissioner. De Williams has volunteered to sponsor the children's bouncy castle. The committee is still looking for drummers for the march.

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

They are still waiting to hear if their SIG grant proposal has been accepted.

A departmental promotion has been announced for the position recently vacated by Maureen Donaghue.

They are trying to assist the University to develop a policy regarding drinking on the job.

River Rock Casino was denied a liquor license, but is appealing.

#### **VI. AODS Division Report**

SonomaWorks funding has been reduced by \$98,000 for this fiscal year. This reduction will impact most providers. Some programs may be in jeopardy of shutting down completely.

AODS will be starting a new in-custody program in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department, which will treat clients for about 3 months while they are in custody and then transition them

into residential treatment for the remainder of their treatment episode. This program will be effective October 1, 2004.

#### Action Item

Four bills are currently pending the governor's signature. They are AB 2136, which is intended to provide guidance to local correctional agencies in dealing with addicted inmates; AB 2871, which would authorize cities and counties to develop clean needle and syringe exchange programs without having to declare a local emergency every two weeks; SB 1159, which would permit pharmacists or physicians to furnish hypodermic needles and syringes for human use without a prescription; and AB 1796, which restores federal food stamp benefits to people who have been convicted of certain drug-related crimes. AODS would like to know if the board would be willing to write letters to the governor in support of these four bills.

A motion was carried for the board to support the four bills with letters to the governor.

### **VII. Roundtable**

**DAAC:** They have a full-time counselor doing 1.5 hour groups at Cloverdale Comprehensive High School. They are also working at Ridgeway, and the new Clean and Sober school opened in Petaluma. The Santa Rosa School District is giving them \$25,000 to work with Prevention and Planning to do the A.C.T. program in middle and high schools.

Their Perinatal Day Treatment program is at risk of closing due to the SonomaWorks reductions.

**Harmony Galford:** Two of the three young people's meetings are doing really well. The young men's step-study group is slow. Harmony is doing AA presentations for Sonoma County Schools by request.

**WRS:** The SonomaWorks reductions for WRS total about \$40,000. Their transition home will be closing, and they will be losing some treatment beds as well.

September 21, 2004 from 4-6 pm is their open house. Everyone is welcome.

They received help around their facility for Day of Caring. About 40 people arrived and spent all day helping them clean and perform maintenance, and the facility looks very good. One of the Day of Caring volunteers told Cheryle that she had been through the WRS program 19 years ago.

Ladies Home Journal interviewed Cheryle for an article they are doing on a particular client who has been through the WRS program. They were primarily interested in learning more about the population that WRS serves.

**Tammy Cotter:** Tammy and Patsy went to the Rotary Club to do a talk about the new clean and sober school. The Rotary Club was very receptive. They are trying to do PR to the traditional school system to try to educate and increase referrals.

Meeting adjourned: 7:20 pm