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November 21, 2016

TO: Executive Directors, SAPC Contracted Providers 

FROM: Wayne K. Sugita, Interim Director

SUBJECT: **IMPACT OF RECENT NATIONAL, STATE AND COUNTY ELECTIONS**

Since the election, just about every meeting in which I have participated has been consumed with discussions on the possible impact of the new President and Congress on public policies related to health care, including (either directly or indirectly) substance use disorder (SUD) services. We all have made tremendous efforts to prepare for the July 1, 2017 start of the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) demonstration project, so it is understandable that there is widespread concern about the impact of the election on our plans to transform our system of care.

I want to assure you that we intend to firmly hold to the principles we established for implementing a Countywide Organized Delivery System for SUD services. We know that providing SUD prevention, treatment and recovery services is key to creating healthier communities and to reducing costs in health care, criminal justice, and social services. Until we are informed of any concrete changes to the Affordable Care Act or the DMC-ODS waiver we will continue our efforts to implement the new system of care as envisioned.

We will be active in advocating at all levels of government to ensure that health care and SUD services remain a high priority and that appropriate attention and resources are allocated to fully implement the DMC-ODS vision that we have worked so hard to establish across the State and County. I also personally ask you all to continue to support our efforts to operationalize DMC-ODS on behalf of the County's residents.

I look forward to continuing our work together and thank you for all the dedicated work you are doing on the front lines each day. I will also be sure to keep you closely updated on developments as they may occur.

WKS:wks

c: Wesley L. Ford  
SAPC Executive Team  
SAPC Employees  
Members, Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs