COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Substance Abuse Prevention and Control
Provider Advisory Committee

Meeting Summary – August 8, 2023

Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) MEMBERS PRESENT ON MICROSOFT TEAMS: Dr. Gary Tsai (Chair), Kathy Watt, Jose Aguilar, Celia Aragon, Adrian Chavez (for Rocio Quezada), Julia Corea, Deena Duncan, Brandon Fernandez-Comer, Nina Glassman, Alice Gleghorn, Christina Gonzales, Baldomero "Junie" Gonzalez, Colette Harley, JoAnn Hemstreet, Jonathan Higgins, Hiroko Makiyama, Nely Meza-Andrade, Jose Salazar, Liana Sanchez, Jim Symington, William Taetzsch, Aris Tubadeza, Edith Urner

Substance Abuse Prevention and Control REPRESENTATIVES: Allison Kwan, Alyssa Cohen, Antonne Moore, April Stump-Earwood, Belia Sardinha, Bernie Lau, Brian Hurley, Cherene Cexil, Christina Villegas, Daniel Deniz, David Hindman, Erika Valdez, Gary Tsai, Glenda Pinney, Greg Schwarz, Helen Wren-Russ, Julie Lo, Julie Monji, Ka Chi Wong, Kimia Ramezani, Maria Elena Chavez, Michelle Gibson, Nancy Crosby, Nima Amini, Stephanie Chen, Tina Kim, Yanira Lima, Zena Yusuf

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Amanda Carnegie (Changin Spirits), Amy Mcilvaine (CIBHS), Andrea Munteanu (ACWLA), Ariana Valera (Sadler Healthcare), Camila Sanchez, Charnice Wells (CTC Programs), Christopher Botten (CIBHS), Claudia Murillo (House of Hope), Douglass Johnson, Elida Arroyo, Eloisa Cuenca (Changing Spirits), Jeff Russell (Beacon House), Lake Hughes Nick Brown, Leena Syhapanha (Prototypes), Leslie Dishman (CIBHS), Lilian Pamintuan, Martha Nelson, Mechelle Monroe (Prototypes), Pedram Moshfegh (Phoenix House), Pranab Banskota (CIBHS), Darlene Walker (Lundquist), Yohanna Macedo (Salvation Army)

ABSENT:

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED: PAC Meeting Agenda; PAC Meeting Minutes (June 13, 2023); Meeting Presentation Slides

Topic	Discussion/Finding	Recommendations, Action, Follow-up
Welcome	**Michelle Gibson, MPH, Deputy Division Director for Treatment Services, Los Angeles County, Department of Public Health (DPH), Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC)** o Michelle Gibson (DPH) hosted the meeting in lieu of Gary Tsai, M.D. who joined later o Welcomed PAC members to the new term	
PAC Member Recognition	Each PAC member introduced themselves and stated their name, agency, and role with agency	
Approval of Meeting Minutes	**Bernie Lau, DPH, Systems of Care** • Bernie Lau (DPH) presented the June 13, 2023, meeting minutes. A motion to approve the meeting minutes with no changes was advanced by Edith Urner (Exodus Recovery) and seconded by Jose Aguilar (Grandview) and Jim Symington (Compatior). • The finalized minutes will be posted on the PAC website.	Minutes approved and posted with no changes.

Co-Chair Election	**Michelle Gibson, DPH, Deputy Division Director** • PAC Members voted for Co-Chair with only one nomination for Kathy Watt (Van Ness). • SAPC Co-Chair Delegate called for a vote via raised hands on Microsoft Teams. Among the 21 PAC members present, 20 members voted to re-elect Kathy Watt. • Michelle Gibson certified the election results.	Kathy Watt was re-elected Provider Co-Chair
Business Technology Workgroup (BT)	**Jim Symington, Compatior and Aris Tubadeza, AADAP** • July 20, 2023 meeting was postponed. • BT Workgroup will notify everyone when the next meeting is scheduled once a date is identified. • Please email Bernie Lau to join Workgroup meetings or have any business technology topics to address. *Christina Gonzalez raised some issues with accessing SAPC training platform, which other members also voiced. experienced.* For technical assistance, please reach out to Daniel Deniz with ticket number to access trainings.	

Key Indicator Workgroup	**Jonathan Higgins, Beacon House and Christina González, Impact**
	• Next Meeting Monday, 8/28 (corrected from 8/26)
	• Focus areas:
	    o (1) Workforce development (recruitment, retention, and training) – reviewing incentives that are being tracked and assessing what is working or needs improvement.
	    o (2) R95 (comprehensive access to care) – utilizing polls and SurveyMonkey to identify priority indicators
	    o (3) Enhancing data reporting – utilizing timeline, Workgroup will assess what is effective or requires adapting. Workgroup will provide suggestions and draft narrative to present	

Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services	**Kathy Watt, Van Ness Recovery House** • Urges PAC to create and join Cultural and Linguistically Appropriate Services Workgroup • SAPC Strategic Plan proposes exploring strategies to expand access to culturally and linguistically relevant outreach, engagement, and services in efforts to address inequities. • Please email Kathy Watt and Bernie Lau if interested in helping with getting this workgroup started.	

Capacity Building Workforce Development Survey	**Belia Sardinha, DPH, Policy and Strategic Initiatives**
	• 1A Agency-Level Survey released July 31, 2023 (includes FAQ, Draft Survey in Word form, and SurveyMonkey Link, which is open until August 15, 2023.)
	    o 13 surveys completed and 6 surveys incomplete
	    o Will follow-up for technical assistance with individuals who cannot complete survey
	• As follow up:
	    o SAPC Capacity Building Initiative (CBI) Team will review survey for completeness	

	- SAPC-CBI Team provides pdf survey response to providers as proof to the person who submitted the survey only. - Once pdf proof is received, Agency can submit Invoice 2-Deliverable based for payment: - Tier 1- $10,000 - Tier 2- $15,000 - Tier 3-$20,000 - DPH will provide 1A de-identified summary data for the Network of SAPC providers (TBD September/October 2023) to be used to inform 1B Summary Review and 1-C Sustainability Plan - SAPC-CBI team working on finalizing 1-B Staff Survey - Will reach out to PAC for review once finalized internally. - Kathy Watt: asks if different web browsers could affect completing survey. Some providers could not put in zeros in survey response. Belia will follow-up. - Belia asked if there were any other barriers to complete the survey? Group recommended to resend survey. Some individuals believe they did not receive survey. SAPC will review if list sent to executive directors only or more broadly. Belia recommended having conversations and advocacy with coworkers to complete survey. Belia also recommended for providers to check with their executive director for survey access.	
Network Adequacy Certification Application (NACA) and Monthly Practitioner Update and Service and Bed Availability Tool (SBAT)	**Antonne Moore, DPH, Strategic and Network Development** - DHCS released draft Behavioral Health Information Notice (BHIN) - SAPC provided comments in conjunction with Department of Mental Health. - Date for submission will be released soon. - On June 2023, NACA pilot completed with 8 provider agencies, and identified needed changes/opportunities for provider network training. - On August 2023, DHCS is preparing for Network Adequacy Certification Tool (NACT) submission to be completed by October 2023. On October 2023, NACA submission will likely be due. - On November 2023, SAPC will provide monthly Practitioner updates due by 15th of each month. - Goal: Meeting state guidelines around updating Practitioner information on SBAT monthly. NACA Enhancements - Added fields (to inform SBAT) - NACT Coordinator contact information - Special populations - Language capabilities	

	• Antonne More informed the group that NACT is currently closed and it will likely open again in early October. Monthly Practitioner Update Timeline • Set up system to pre-populate information by 10th of each month • Sends e-mail reminders to providers to update information by the 15th of each month • Provider Updates completed by 15th of each month • SAPC validates within 5 days. • Licensed practitioners updated in SBAT by 20th of each month • NACT training anticipated in September and roll out in October • ***Can SAPC see when registered clinician transitions to certified as verification?*** Yes, this will be known when provider updates NACT on a following month from registered to certified. SAPC will only know when agency reports. • ***Some individuals have dual roles. How does one qualify as clinical practitioner?*** SAPC is looking for individuals who offer direct services (not % of time), so if an employee has both *administrative* and d*irect service* roles, identify employee as "direct service" staff. If employee only provides administrative duties, do not include employee as a clinical practitioner.	

SAPC Announcements	**Bernie Lau, DPH, Systems of Care**
	 ○ **PAC Bylaws**
	  ▪ Bylaws are currently being updated and will be emailed soon.
	  ▪ PAC Members are responsible for reviewing the PAC Bylaws and providing feedback.
	• Final draft of Bylaws will be voted on at the next meeting on October 10, 2023.
		Bernie will email a draft of the Bylaws for PAC members to review.

Meeting Wrap Up	**Bernie Lau, DPH, Systems of Care** Bernie provided a summary of decisions and next steps discussed during the meeting: **Decisions:** • Meeting minutes were approved. • Kathy Watt has been elected to another term as PAC Co-Chair **Next Steps:** • PAC members will be sent a draft of the Bylaws and have time to review.	

	• Email Kathy Watt and Bernie Lau if you want to help with starting the Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services Workgroup. • Email Bernie Lau if you want to join any workgroups. • For any technical assistance with PCNX, e-mail sage@ph.lacounty.gov **Suggested topics for next meeting**: • *Celia Aragon (BHS) stated that BHS metrics in EHR do not match CALOMS outcomes, and CALOMS outcomes don't match Discharge, Transfer Form in Sage. What can be done to standardize? Dr. Tsai shared the Dr. Tina Kim is working on the CALOMS on standardizing of outcome definitions.* Bernie will follow-up with Dr. Tina Kim to identify how agencies track data and how to assist agencies to standardize tracking metrics for CALOMS. Kathy Watt also proposed to collect policies/documents/MOUs to collect on behalf of PAC members for review. • *Brandon Fernandez proposed an opportunity to develop Best Practice forum where providers share issues in quality management/process improvement for policies and procedures (e.g. AMA rights increasing or decreasing).* Brandon said to email him if people interested in forming this group.	
Public Comment	**Dr. Gary Tsai, M.D., Bureau Director, Los Angeles County, Department of Public Health (DPH), Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC)** • *Christina Gonzales (Principles) shared that it was helpful to not have to do augmentations for the new fiscal year*. Dr. Tsai responded that most agencies had their contract amount go up. He notes that the proportion of contract that an agency is utilizing informs the basis of any changes in contract amount. This provides SAPC with more resources to invest in SUD resources and fund capacity building and incentives. Dr. Tsai highlighted that SAPC is working with LA City for opioid and tobacco settlement funds to complement SAPC's work to support providers. • *Claudia Murillo (House of Hope) addressed contingency management and gift cards being handed out to SUD individuals.* Dr. Tsai informed the group that other harm reduction strategies are being implemented in Santa Monica. • *JoAnn Hemstreet (Homeless Health Care) inquired about opioid settlement dollars and how SAPC is involved*. Dr. Tsai clarified that LA City is investing in extending residential stays when medical necessity cannot be continued or offering recovery-oriented housing. Four departments are being allocated opioid settlement dollars (DPH, Department of Health Services, LA County Fire, and Medical Examiner-Coroner). SAPC is investing on prevention (positive youth development and preventative community-based organizations), while a portion is going toward expanding harm-reduction services. For treatment options, MAT is expanding (i.e. cost sharing opportunity that will be presented to providers). Investment is also	

	going toward treatment, recovery-oriented housing and enhancing of electronic health records. It is unclear how other departments will invest their funds. • ***Brandon Fernandez (Cri-Help) raised a questions about billing manual (e.g. oversight of self-administration of MAT medication is now a separate billable claim within residential settings and residential withdrawal management settings)****.* Dr. Tsai referred to Dr. Hurley for a response. Dr. Hurley will provide more updates during the next meeting. Daniel Deniz also responded that an e-mail was sent this afternoon regarding transitional payments to providers. Dr. Tsai added that if feasible, agencies should avoid transitional payment process to avoid any reconciliation that can occur and delay cash flow. **Kathy Watt** (Co-Chair) thanked DPH for starting DMC-ODS for PAC group.	
Next Meeting	Next meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2023, at 2 PM. • This will be a hybrid meeting (in-person, with a virtual option). However, PAC is strongly encouraged to participate in person.	

Approved 10/10/2023 – Yanira A. Lima