

Expanding Outreach & Engagement

Increasing Pre-Diagnosis Engagement of People with Substance Use Disorders

A key aim of Los Angeles County's R95 Initiative is to engage more people more meaningfully in substance use disorder (SUD) services. One important way to achieve this is by expanding outreach and engagement services.

Traditionally, Medi-Cal has not reimbursed for outreach or engagement services for people served by the specialty SUD system. However, California State policy changes now allow specialty SUD treatment providers to be reimbursed for services delivered to people even prior to a formal assessment and diagnosis.



This flexibility can be leveraged for individuals who need more time to complete the assessment process given their individualized circumstances and SUD agencies are now able to directly engage individuals in the community – outside of the four walls of a treatment programs – with limited services (e.g., individual sessions, care coordination) while the individual considers whether to engage more fully in treatment.

Through the R95 Initiative, Los Angeles County's Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) is maximizing these State allowances to engage a broader spectrum of people struggling with substance use. More details on SAPC's guidance around this can be accessed here:

http://ph.lacounty.gov/sapc/docs/public/r95/Engagement%20Policy_10.28.24_FINAL.pdf



**Leveraging More Flexible
Policies to Expand Outreach
and Engagement Services**

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