



START-ODS

SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION TO ADVANCE RECOVERY AND TREATMENT

Los Angeles County's Substance Use Disorder Organized Delivery System

CAPACITY BUILDING AND TIMELINE

Major Changes to the SUD System of Care

System Transformation to Advance Recovery and Treatment (START) – Los Angeles County's new substance use disorder (SUD) organized delivery system expands Drug Medi-Cal (DMC), reimbursable services (beyond adolescents and perinatal women for short-term residential treatment) and includes additional services (beyond outpatient, intensive outpatient, and opioid treatment programs) to create a fuller continuum of care.

The continuum of care under START will include withdrawal management (formerly detoxification), medication-assisted treatment, short-term residential, case management and care coordination (within the SUD system and with physical and mental health systems), and recovery support services for all eligible beneficiaries. Under the system transformation, most patients and most levels of care (formerly known as modalities) will be funded by DMC. There will soon be a single benefit package available to all individuals served in the publicly funded system, including those who qualify for My Health LA.

To help agencies make the transition to the new service design and requirements, SAPC has increased the most commonly used treatment rates by 10 percent and increased funding for more contracted beds for eligible residential programs. To fully utilize these funds by the cost reporting deadline, and more importantly make the necessary investments to prepare for this extensive system transformation, SAPC strongly recommends that these additional resources be invested in efforts that will ready agencies to participate in the waiver.

Recommendations include:

- Complete the DMC certification and licensure process for each contracted level of care and agency-operated site.
- Complete SAPC's Master Agreement process for current and/or new LOCs, as needed.
- Recruit and hire a Medical Director.
- Conduct an analysis of options to improve the agency's staffing structure to achieve the expectations of the system transformation. Steps may include hiring quality assurance staff or other clinical staff such as Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW), LCSW interns, Marriage and Family Therapists (MFT), and MFT interns to supplement the certified and registered counselor workforce.
- Prepare and train counseling/clinical staff on the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Criteria, including levels of care and medical necessity determinations, as well as documentation and other requirements of the waiver.
- Enhance and/or develop quality improvement and utilization management practices.
- Evaluate the feasibility of partnerships and networks with other SUD and non-SUD providers to share/improve administrative operations and functions (e.g., medical director, quality improvement and utilization management activities, data collection and evaluation).
- Upgrade technology systems to allow for electronic information systems and records.
- Conduct capital improvements to ensure full utilization of all facilities and support delivery of effective clinical services.
- Develop strategic and organizational development plans to increase operational capacity.

California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions

CIBHS to provide training, consultation and technical assistance services to substance use disorder treatment agencies in California

- <http://www.cibhs.org/>

SUD Training, Consultation and Technical Assistance Services

- <http://www.cibhs.org/sud-services>

California Department of Health Care Services

To access and learn more about the DMC Certification and AOD Process, please see below:

- Application is available at: http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/adp/Pages/Drug_MediCal.aspx
- Make sure the application is the latest version: Drug Medi-Cal Certification Application - DHCS 6001 (Revised 12/2014), DHCS 6009 (Revised 12/2014), DHCS 6010 Revised 12/2014, and DHCS 6207 (Revised 02/2015)
- Provider Enrollment Division Message Center at (916) 323-1945, or via email at DHCSDMCRecert@dhcs.ca.gov.
- DMC Program Overview: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/DMCD-TreatmentProgram-Prov.aspx>
- DMC ASAM Designation: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/ASAM-Designation.aspx>

Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

To access and learn more about SAPC's Master Agreement application:

- Application is available at: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/cg/index.htm>
 - Under: Department of Public Health (DPH) OPEN SOLICITATIONS
 - [2012-004 Substance Use Disorder RFSQ \(Re-Open\)](#)
 - [Addendum Number 6](#) (8-24-15)

Center for Non-Profit Management

Provides consulting services regarding Strategic Planning, Organizational Development, Evaluation & Program Development, Board/Staff Development, Fund Development Planning, and Executive Coaching.

- <http://cnmsocal.org>

SUGGESTED PROVIDER TIMELINE FOR SELECT SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION PROJECTS

