

## **CAADPE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **PROPOSED TRAILER BILL LANGUAGE FOR OFFENDER TREATMENT PROGRAM (OTP)**

The California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives, Inc. (CAADPE) opposes any reduction of *Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act (SACPA)* funding. CAADPE also, opposes any shift of SACPA funding to the *Offender Treatment Program (OTP)* from the current FY 2006/2007 proposed budget. In addition CAADPE recommends that SACPA be funded at the \$250 million level. Last year the counties conducted a survey to determine the need for substance abuse services under Prop. 36. Based on the survey, the actual funding need was \$209 million. The counties are currently conducting another survey to determine the actual costs for FY 2007/08. Preliminary estimates place the amount at \$250 million, which also includes adjustments for costs associated with complying with new state regulations, wage increases needed to attract and retain qualified counselors in a very competitive market, and increasing costs of employee benefit programs. As SACPA is being funded at the appropriate level, the administration needs to focus on expanding community based treatment for all offenders within the county system of care. To assist the county in this endeavor CAADPE supports a 15% cap on administration funding within the OTP program which will support the expansion of community based treatment for all offenders with the county.

CAADPE has the following comments with respect to proposed OTP trailer bill language

- **Section 11999.30**

While CAADPE has had an ongoing position opposing matching funds tied to Proposition 36 to the extent that the OTP regulations require matching funds, they should be flexible enough to allow all counties to participate by providing match in a variety of ways to include matching with direct dollars or in kind contributions, or combination of matching services that may involve the county and its provider network.

- **Section 11999.30**

While CAADPE supports the need for improved outcomes, an allocation methodology based on treatment complete rates without standardized definitions of what constitutes treatment complete or standardized criteria to include length of stay is an equitable allocation process is unfair and unreasonable. Given CA Department of Alcohol and Drug Program (DADP) movement to a chronic care model, we have to assess what the concept of treatment complete means in a chronic care model before embarking on significant decisions that make allocations based on completion data. Additionally, as we ask for improved outcomes we have to give careful consideration to allocation decisions that today may reduce a counties allocation based on faulty data that they further handicaps the county in its ability to address the desired outcomes we are all interested in.

- **Section 11999.30 (B) (3)**

This items starts out with regard to any other factors determined by department. There is a real need to define additional outcome measures such as appropriate outcomes that address quality of life indicators. "Treatment" results in significant improvements in the individual's functioning in many ways, i.e., health,

employment, reduced criminality etc. It is a mistake to ignore such outcomes and how they can be further improved and how improving them improves overall outcomes to society even if treatment completion is not achieved in all those served.

- **Section 11999.30 (E)**

This refers to the Department having the discretion to limit Administrative costs. Administrative cost are necessary to support the essential collaboration between courts, probation, counties and treatment providers. We do, however, support a limitation in order to insure the collaboration yet protect the integrity of OTP, therefore, administrative costs under OTP should be capped at no more than 15% of county allocation.

CAADPE urges your support in the opposition of any reduction of SCAPA funds and any shift of SCAPA funding to the OTP.

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**California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives, (CAADPE)**

The California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE), is a professional association of community-based nonprofit alcohol recovery and other drug abuse treatment agency executives. CAADPE member agencies provide substance abuse services at over 300 sites throughout the state, employ an estimated 7,000 individuals in California, and constitute the infrastructure of state's publicly funded Alcohol and other drug (AOD) network. Established in 1989, CAADPE is the only statewide association representing the full continuum of AOD prevention and treatment programs.

CAADPE leads the California AOD field in its focus on workforce development and professional standards. CAADPE assists its members in providing superior services to their clients by the advancement of professional standards of care and advocating for the development of a workforce that is based on excellence through education, knowledge, strict adherence to standards of practice, ethics, and professional development.

Contact the CAADPE office at 916-329-7409/ [caadpe@pacbell.net](mailto:caadpe@pacbell.net) if you have any questions regarding CAADPE position and comments of this issue.