



2023 Legislative Priorities

The California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE) is a professional association of community-based nonprofit substance use disorder prevention and treatment executives advocating for quality patient care. Its members, licensed and certified by the state, provide SUD services at over 300 sites throughout California and represent the infrastructure of the state's publicly funded substance use disorder treatment network.

CAADPE's Proposed Legislative Priorities are based on the following principles:

- Californians deserve a comprehensive, community-based substance use disorder services system that is fully funded.
- Californians deserve and, data-driven, and culturally responsive approach to service provision.
- CAADPE works strategically and collaboratively to pursue public policy initiatives that drives system change for substance use disorder services throughout California.
- CAADPE supports the integration of substance use disorder, mental health, physical health, housing, education, and vocational rehabilitation services for children, youth, adults, and older adults.

PROPOSED 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES / POLICY ISSUES

Payment and Cost Report Reform

Advocate for robust reimbursement rates for services representing a system of care that places SUD at parity with the entire health care delivery system.

Advocate for reforms that promote the integration of MH and SUD.

Advocate for reforms in DHCS' Cost Report Settlement process: seek conformity of SUD contract settlement process with the MH cost reporting settlement process, which settles to the master contract.

Seek change in cost reporting policy that encompasses and allows reasonable margins, allowing programs to retain a percentage of settlement savings to be reinvested in services.

Monitor changes to the cost reporting process for NTP reporting.

Explore the efficacy of legislative solutions for out-of-network reimbursements (county of service v. county of responsibility) and out-of-network coverage.

Remove burdensome requirements for cost reports.

Advocate for an anti-claw back policy that bans recovery from a provider based on an administrative or technical defect in procedure or documentation made without intent to falsify or defraud, in connection with claims for payment for medically necessary care, services and supplies.

SUD Workforce

Advocate for the expansion of the substance use disorder and behavioral health workforce, which includes recruitment, training, and retention of high-quality and highly-trained SUD professionals. Specific actions include:

- Advocate for Counselor Certification Standards.
- Support the adoption of a statewide Peer Parent, Transition-Age, And Family and Recovery Support Specialist Certification.
- Support extension to two years of free tuition for students enrolled at California's Community Colleges.

Proposition 64

Advocate for the investment of Prop 64 funds in the state's youth wellness programs, and fill longstanding and persistent gaps in youth SUD care by creating a treatment system. There is currently no comprehensive system of care for children, youth, and young adults who need help dealing with alcohol and drug problems.

Advocate for allocation of Proposition 64 funds for substance use disorder services:

Advocate for the adoption of CAADPE recommendations regarding the distribution of Proposition 64 funds, including the earmarking of 80% of the funds for treatment and early intervention and 20% of the funds for prevention (which may also include early intervention). This allocation formula is consistent with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment block grant.

Oppose legislation earmarking Proposition 64 funds for non-prevention and non-treatment purposes.

Oppose changes in state tax rate for cannabis.

Criminal Justice

Advocate for adoption of CAADPE recommendations for improving SUD services in criminal justice settings.

Advocate for expansion of a Medi-Cal DMC-ODS model for in-custody and post-release SUD services in the state prison system.

Advocate for STOP funding reinstatement of 15% and additional case management.

Promote incarcerated individuals' transition into the community through enhanced STOP program funding.

Promote access to behavioral healthcare, including medications for addiction treatment, prior to and after release.

Advocate for a revision of CDCR's definition of individuals who are participating in community release programs.

Advocate to repeal/replace Penal Code Section 1170.06 (use of recovery residences for alternative custody) so as to conform to state laws.

Support proposals that remove juveniles from the state's criminal justice system, and encourage focus on rehabilitation, wellbeing, and resilience.

Expand Access to Treatment:

Promote harm reduction and create paths to treatment by supporting legislation and local ordinances that encourage safe injection sites / safe consumption sites in communities, and other new and innovative harm reduction strategies. (SB 57, Wiener).

Advocate for parity:

- Reimbursement for SUD treatment should be on par with reimbursement for other medical conditions and promote efforts to ensure compliance.
- Documentation must be on par with reimbursement for other medical conditions, and promote efforts to ensure compliance.

Advocate for MAT/Treatment access in correctional and post-release settings.

Advocate for expanded access to services for the criminal justice population:

- Maximum utilization of STOP services
- Support DHCS initiatives to enable CMS approval for 90 day inreach services

- Ensure that overdose prevention medication is offered upon release in every community

Advocate for California to “Opt-In” to implement the federal FFPA (Families First Preservation Act).

Reject fee increases for licensing and other operational expenses

Advocate for full utilization of EPSDT for SUD services.

Advocate for full utilization of harm reduction strategies and safe injection sites. Provide education to the administration and relevant departments that address the veto of SB 57 (Wiener). This includes assisting the Secretary of Health and Human Services to convene city and county officials to discuss minimum standards and best practices for safe and sustainable overdose prevention programs. Also help bring forward existing data showing comprehensive plans for siting, operations, community partnerships, and fiscal sustainability that demonstrate how these programs are being run safely and effectively.

Advocate for Behavioral Health Czar as a member of the Governor’s cabinet, whose portfolio includes substance use disorder and mental health.

Promote legislation that further clarifies the law to disallow public funds being paid to any service where consumers are discriminated against due to their MAT status (ex. FDA approved medications methadone, buprenorphine, or naltrexone).