

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Substance Abuse Prevention and Control
Provider Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary – December 10, 2024

Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) MEMBERS PRESENT (23): Gary Tsai, M.D., (Co-Chair), Kathy Watt (Co-Chair), Celia Aragon, Seth Blackburn, Deena Duncan, Alice Gleghorn, Christina Gonzales, Baldomero Gonzalez, Maricela Gray, Colette Harley, John Helyar, Jonathan Higgins, Neptune Linares, Hiroko Makiyama, Nely Meza-Andrade, Brianna Monroy, Pedram Moshfegh, Adrian Reveles, Jose Salazar, Liana Sanchez, James Symington, Jina Tintor, Edith Urner.

Substance Abuse Prevention and Control REPRESENTATIVES (26): Nima Amini, Hui Chen Chang, Ethan Yeun Ho Chang, Maria Elena Chavez, Alyssa Cohen, Daniel Deniz, Michelle Gibson, David Hindman, Kyle Kennedy, Allison Kwan, Vanessa Lam, Bernie Lau, Yanira Lima, Jocelyn Linares, Julie Lo, Simona Lovin, Christina Martinez, Antonne Moore, Ilish Perez, Glenda Pinney, Francisco Reyes, Ana San, Sandy Song, Armen Ter-Barsegyan, Isabella Weiss, Setareh Yavari.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (24): Pranab Banskota, Rene Barrios, Christopher Botten, Rachel Carrillo, Roneel Chaudhary, Sharon Covington, Leslie Dishman, Krystal Edwards, Leslie Garcia, John Gray, Brandee Greene, Jeanie Hansen, Kaitlin Hedge, Mark Malone, Karen Marder, Chelsea McElwee, Liz McGhee, Amy Mcilvaine, Nichole McIntire, Chris Morales, Juan Navarro, Nidia Pena, Phou Sokhom, Monica Soto, William Taetzsch, Arlene Vasquez, Leo Vasquez, Ana Vicuna, Sara Vides, Stacey Yun.

ABSENT: None.

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED: PAC Meeting Agenda; PAC Meeting Minutes (October 8, 2024); Meeting Presentation Slides; PAC Provider Data Workgroup - Framework, Survey Responses, and Proposed Metrics

Topic	Discussion/Finding	Recommendations, Action, Follow-up
Welcome	<p>Dr. Gary Tsai, MD, Bureau Director, Los Angeles County, Department of Public Health (DPH), Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Tsai welcomed PAC members. 	
Approval of Meeting Minutes	<p>Bernie Lau, DPH, Systems of Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bernie Lau (DPH) presented the minutes from the October 8, 2024 PAC meeting. A motion to approve the minutes with no changes was advanced by Liana Sanchez (L.A. CADA) and seconded by Edith Urner (Exodus Recovery) and Jonathan Higgins (Beacon House). 	
PAC Provider Data Workgroup	<p>Dr. Gary Tsai, MD, Bureau Director, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, SAPC</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Gary Tsai (DPH) provided updates on the PAC Provider Data Workgroup and expressed gratitude to providers that participated in this workgroup and offered their valuable contributions. He summarized how the collected input within identified data categories led to consensus on which data metrics to focus on. He explained that the aim of the workgroup is to establish a set of metrics that agencies can independently track that is separate from the data SAPC already requires. • Dr. Tsai also explained that the workgroup developed a set of recommended metrics based on survey data collected from participating agencies among four data categories: Clinical, Financial, Workforce, and Organizational. The PAC was encouraged to review and provide feedback to the proposed metrics before they are presented at the upcoming All Treatment Provider Meeting scheduled for January 2025. The finalized recommendations aim to help agencies improve operations, address gaps, and prepare for a value-based environment. While the metrics are not definitive, they serve as a starting point for agencies to organize and collect data to prepare them for more advanced systems. 	
<p>Value-Based Care under CalAIM</p>	<p>Neptune Linares, Clare Matrix</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neptune inquired about specific value-based outcomes providers should aim to achieve under CalAIM’s current efforts. While there are metrics being developed, he asked the group whether outcomes like care coordination could be incorporated as quality measures for clients. • Dr. Tsai highlighted that benchmarks set under payment reform already exist. He discussed that outcomes can be assessed at different levels—systems, agency, and client. The PAC Provider Data Workgroup has come up with a framework to serve as a useful guide for aligning value-based benchmarks for providers. SAPC has not yet finalized the metrics and benchmarks and plans to do so during the payment reform approach. SAPC has developed a 10-year road map for payment reform so providers can have direction toward identifying some of these priorities. He emphasized the significance of partnerships between SAPC and agencies in building their value-based care model. 	
<p>New Authorization Extension on Recovery Bridge Housing</p>	<p>Pedram Moshfegh, Grandview Foundation Edith Urner, Exodus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedram and Edith raised questions regarding challenges related to the extension of Recovery Bridge Housing (RBH) from 180 days to 360 days. They reported concerns about a shortage of available RBH beds that may be a result of the extension, leading to bottlenecks to admitting new clients. • Dr. Tsai responded that the extension was implemented to address the challenges of securing permanent housing for clients within 180 days. He also highlighted the importance of balancing RBH with other housing options, like recovery housing. • Yanira Lima (DPH) mentioned that the extension for RBH can potentially impact bed turnover, however, we need sometime to determine if this policy change will create additional bottlenecks in the system. She 	

	also mentioned that RBH beds have increased from an initial goal of 500 to over 1,600 beds, and highlighted that RBH beds have never been fully utilized.	
Budget Information Notice Update	<p>Daniel Deniz, SAPC Finance Division Chief</p> <p>Daniel Deniz provided an overview of the updated Budget Information notice regarding budget revisions. He discussed the 60-Day Operating Reserve, where providers now have the option to contribute a portion of their revenue or administrative cost toward the 60-day calendar operating reserve. He also explained that providers can now identify and allocate funds for reinvestment without being bound to the previous 1% benchmark, allowing for more flexibility based on their overall investment plan.</p>	
PAC Co-Chair Updates	<p>Kathy Watt, Van Ness Recovery House</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathy Watt announced the search for a new PAC Co-Chair, with elections scheduled for June 2025. She encouraged interested individuals to reach out with questions and offered to meet or discuss the role informally. The official transition for new members and elections will occur by the first meeting of the upcoming 2025-26 term. 	
2025-2027 PAC Membership Selection	<p>Bernie Lau, DPH, Systems of Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernie discussed the process of new member selection starting in early 2025. Members reapplying for a new term are advised not to serve on the selection committee to avoid conflicts of interest. Each term is two years, and members may reapply for an additional term. 	
Public Comments	<p>Junie Gonzalez, Cri-Help</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junie raised concerns about the transition to bundled service rates that could disadvantage organizations that have invested in their operations and workforce compared to organizations that have not made similar investments. • Dr. Gary Tsai (DPH) addressed the concern by explaining that the shift to value-based reimbursement aims to balance disparities between agencies by incentivizing better outcomes. He reassured providers that discussions with DHCS are ongoing to prevent potential negative impacts of bundling on services and workforce needs. • Dr. Tsai also reminder providers that Dr. Hurley updated ASAM 4.0 resources on the SAPC website. 	
Meeting Wrap Up	<p>Bernie Lau, DPH, Systems of Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes from the October 8, 2024 meeting were approved. Liana Sanchez motioned for approval, seconded by Edith Urner and Jonathan Higgins. • PAC Members will provide additional input to proposed metrics (attached) by December 20, 2024 before they are presented at the All Treatment Provider meeting on January 7, 2025. Feedback can be sent to Armen Ter-Barsegyan. • Kathy Watt will identify 3 PAC members to participate in 2025-27 PAC Membership Selection. • Bernie discussed future plans to collect feedback on PAC, including suggestions and topics. 	

Next Meeting	Reminder: Next Provider Advisory Committee Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 2024, from 2 PM – 4pm.• This will be an in-person meeting with virtual option.	
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Reviewed and approved by Y.Lima