

SAPC All Treatment Provider Meeting

May 13, 2026

Executive Updates

- SAPC's Response to Fraud, Waste, and Abuse
- Best Practices for Managing NIMBYism
- SUD Representation in SALTs and UsCC Meetings across the County
- LPCC Workforce Discussion

Context Around Program Integrity

- News coverage over housing funds and services in LA County.
- Federal reviews of childcare in Minnesota and autism and hospice services in California.
- Increase oversight by State and Federal entities related to Executive Orders.
- Recent communications between State of California & Federal agencies on harm reduction and MAT (*Dr. Oz letter, Dear Colleague Letters, upcoming HHS visit*).

Increased Compliance Actions

- Enhanced fiscal reports & narratives
- Audited financials submitted annually
- Complaint QR Code requirement

SAPC's Commitment to Program Integrity

- Ongoing Contractual & Fiscal Monitoring
- Programmatic/Quality Improvement Reviews
- SAPC Information Notice 22-10: Commitment to Identify, Prevent and Respond to Fraud, Waste & Abuse
 - Provider Requirements
 - Maintain policies to detect and prevent FWA that align with state, federal and local guidelines
 - Designate a Compliance Officer
 - Report all suspected and/or confirmed FWA:
SAPCMonitoring@ph.lacounty.gov

Best Practices for Addressing NIMBYism

- Bridging the Gap Between SUD Care Providers and NIMBY Neighbors – A Best Practice Toolkit
 - Moving from “NIMBY” to “YIMBY”

Community Engagement with Proactive Outreach

- Share simple, clear, and accurate information in public forums and media.
- Engage community leaders in discussions of the value of the program and its place within the community.
- Engage supporters within the community.
- Be responsive and address community concerns.

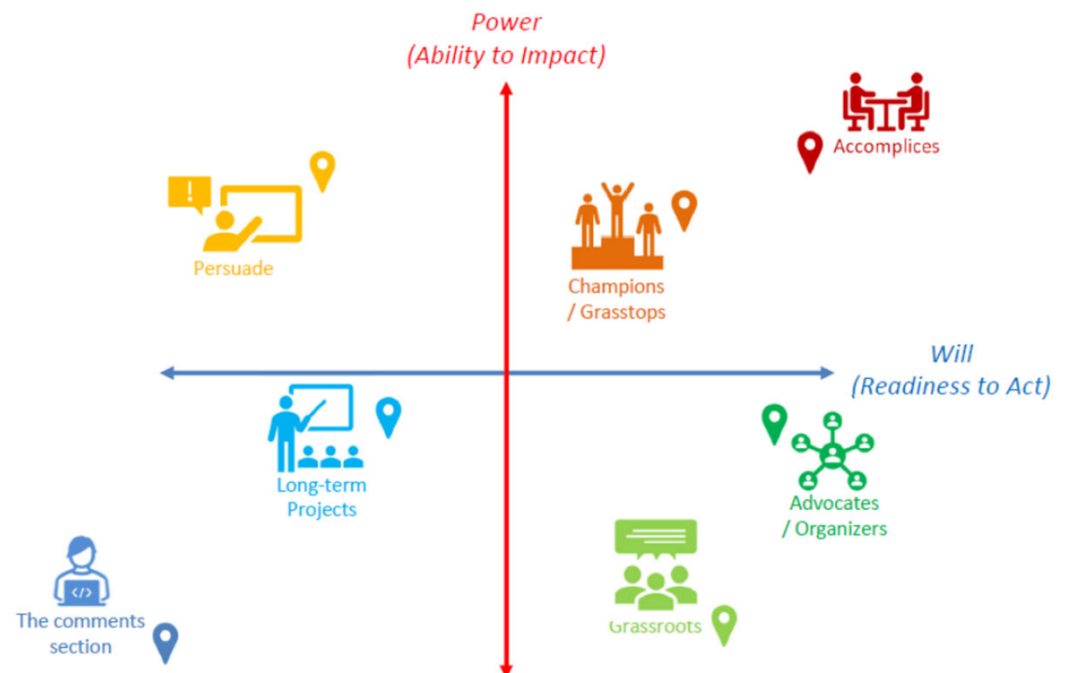
Legal Protections for Individuals with SUD

- Use due process and legal challenges to protect prospective residents from discrimination.

Community Engagement with Proactive Outreach

Engage Key Stakeholders (Including Supporters)

- Neighborhood Councils
- Provider advocacy organizations such as the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE)
- Churches, temples, and other faith-based organizations
- Elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels
- Client advocate groups



Community Engagement with Proactive Outreach

Address Common Community Concerns

- NIMBYism and other negative attitudes towards individuals with SUD and SUD care facilities are often rooted in fear, stereotypes, and outdated assumptions.
- Evidence-based information is a powerful response to disrupt misinformed narratives.

Example:

Q: “Will the facility increase crime and violence in the surrounding area?”

A: “Empirical studies using cross sectional analyses have found that SUD care facilities do not raise neighborhood violence or crime and actually are less associated with crime than retail or other commercial businesses.”

Words Matter

- Using science-based and person-first language can influence how individuals with SUD and others perceive this serious and chronic disease. We can set the tone in discussions by being intentional with the language we use in response to stigmatizing slang.

Examples:

Use: “Person with a SUD”, “Testing negative on a drug screening”, “Treatment”

Avoid: “Addict”, “Clean”, “Intervention”

Legal Protections for Individuals With SUD

- Federal and State law classifies individuals struggling with substance use as having a disability.
 - This protects individuals from unlawful discrimination, harassment, or abuse in a variety of settings like housing, the workplace, school, voting, business, healthcare, public spaces, and more.
 - The law also shields programs providing SUD services from biased or unfair government intervention.
- There are limitations on protections under both Federal and State law for individuals who are engaged in “current unlawful use of controlled substances or other drugs”.

Protections Under Federal Law

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Protections Under California State Law

The Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA)

Disabled Persons Act

Unruh Civil Rights Act

The Housing Accountability Act (HAA) and Builder’s Remedy

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Exemptions

Increasing SUD Representation in SALTs and UsCCs

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) funds, supports, and oversees SALTs and UsCCs to elevate community voices that inform planning, service delivery, partnerships, and funding decisions.

SAPC is looking to increase SUD representation in these community groups as we implement the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) and expand the focus to cover mental health, SUD, and co-occurring populations.

Service Area Leadership Teams (SALTs)

- SALTs function as local forums that convene community members, develop stakeholder priorities, and provide information, input, and recommendations to DMH related to program, service, and system gaps, MH needs, activities and events for stigma reduction, outreach engagement, and better system linkage, etc.

Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCCs)

- UsCCs refer to communities historically unserved, underserved and inappropriately served in terms of mental health services and are organized into subcommittees that address cultural disparities, access barriers, and equity of care.
- Their capacity building projects are community-based and include culturally effective outreach, engagement, and education, responding to historical and geographic disparities and barriers to services.

SALT 1
SALT1@dmh.lacounty.gov
661-506-2913

SALT 5
SALT5@dmh.lacounty.gov

Access for All UsCC - Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Blind, and Physical Disabilities
Access4AllUsCC@dmh.lacounty.gov

Eastern European/Middle Eastern (EE/ME) UsCC
EEMUsCC@dmh.lacounty.gov

SALT 2
SALT2@dmh.lacounty.gov
818-610-6723

SALT 6
SALT6@dmh.lacounty.gov
213-738-2402

American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) UsCC
AIANUsCC@dmh.lacounty.gov

Latino UsCC
LatinoUsCC@dmh.lacounty.gov

SALT 3
SALT3@dmh.lacounty.gov
626-430-2935

SALT 7
SALT7@dmh.lacounty.gov
323-705-4372

Asian Pacific Islander (API) UsCC
APIUsCC@dmh.lacounty.gov

LGBTQIA2 – S UsCC
LGBTQIA2SUsCC@dmh.lacounty.gov

SALT 4
SALT4@dmh.lacounty.gov
213-349-7983

SALT 8
SALT8@dmh.lacounty.gov
562-256-1270

Black and African Heritage (BAH) UsCC
BAHUsCC@dmh.lacounty.gov

Learn more: <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/salt/>, <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/>

LPCC Workforce Discussion

- **Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) is a master's-level behavioral health professional qualified to assess, diagnose, and treat mental health and substance use disorders.**
- **LPCC's are a billable LPHA practitioner type and comprise a small fraction of the workforce in SAPC's specialty SUD system currently.**
- **Questions for SAPC's provider network**
 - How many agencies have LPCC staff?
 - Is your experience that LPCC's have more SUD experience than other LPHA practitioner types?
 - What role do provider agencies see LPCC's filling in the specialty SUD system?