



Los Angeles County
COMMISSION ON
ALCOHOL AND OTHER
DRUGS

Annual Report

January - December 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| <u>2</u> | Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs Commissioners by Supervisorial District |
| <u>3</u> | Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs Mission Statement and Ordinance |
| <u>5</u> | Key Issues Impacting At-Risk and Systems-Involving Alcohol and Other Drugs |
| <u>6</u> | Strategic Priorities for 2022 Strategic Priority 1: Address Substance Use Disorder Treatment Effectiveness and Efficiency Strategic Priority 2: Focus efforts on the Opioid, Fentanyl and Meth Crisis Strategic Priority 3: Improve Services and Outcomes for County’s Youth Strategic Priority 4: Improve Collaboration with the Board of Supervisors, other Commissions, Departments, Agencies, and Jurisdictions Strategic Priority 5: Marijuana Education and Regulation |
| <u>8</u> | Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs Meetings Education and Prevention Committee Policy and Planning Committee Commission Recommendations |
| <u>12</u> | Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs Strategic Partnerships Commissioner Representation on other County/Community Bodies Los Angeles County Department of Public Health - Substance Abuse Prevention and Control |
| <u>18</u> | Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs 2022 Accomplishments |

COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS COMMISSIONERS
BY SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
JANUARY 2022 – DECEMBER 2022

COMMISSION OFFICERS

Deena Duncan, Chair
Mark Ryan, First Vice Chair
Tony Bell, Second Vice Chair
Johng Ho Song, Recording Secretary
Mark Mendoza, Member-At-Large
Tonya McKenzie, Member-At-Large

COMMISSION LIAISON

Ronae Harrison

FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

Cruz Baca (served until June 2022)
Jack Hadjinian
Bennett W. Root, Jr.
Jerry G. Velasco
Vacant (as of June 2022)

SECOND SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL

Bruce Boardman (appointed July 2022)
Tonya McKenzie (appointed March 2022)
Dean Nakanishi (appointed July 2022)
Johng Ho Song

THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

Amanda Cowan
Sharona R. Nazarian
Mark Ryan
Wendie Warwick

FOURTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN

Deena Duncan
Jihan Judeh (served until April 2022)
Mark Mendoza (appointed May 2022)
Juan Navarro
G. Lola Worthington

FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER

Tony Bell
Rebecca Birotte (appointed March 2022)
Jozef Essavi
Gino Roncelli (served until March 2022)
Howard L. Winkler

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Alicia Garoupa (appointed November 2022)
Monica Sanchez (served until July 2022)

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES LOS ANGELES DIVISION

Lou La Monte

COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Jeremiah Hart

COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS MISSION STATEMENT AND ORDINANCE

MISSION STATEMENT

The Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs (CAOD) advises and makes recommendations to the Board on alcohol and drug issues with the goal of reducing problems and the negative impact of substance use disorders on the quality of life for individuals and their families residing in Los Angeles County.

ORDINANCE

The Commission, as an advisory board, is established pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Sections 429.997, 11752.1(e), 11798.1(a), 11805 and 11998.1(f)(2). The Commission functions pursuant to Chapter 3.15 of the Los Angeles County Code; Board Order Nos. 10 of January 19, 2010, 55 of January 19, 2010, 64-B of January 19, 2010, 19 of January 26, 2010, Ordinance No. 2010-0003 (Which consolidated the Commission on Alcoholism and the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Commission and repealed Chapters 3.06 and 3.40), and Board Order No. 125 of June 26, 1990, Ordinance No. 90-0086 (Term Limits); Board Order No. 31 of April 6, 2010, and Ordinance No. 2010-0016. Board Order No. 38 of October 19, 2010, Ordinance No. 2010-0046. The Commission is charged by its ordinance to:

- Review federal, state and local legislation and recommend to the Board appropriate measures for the implementation thereof
- Recommend to the Board a stronger program, including federal, state, and local legislation as in its opinion would be advisable
- Recommend to the Board strong programs in the field of enforcement, medication, prevention, and rehabilitation concerned with problems associated with the abuse of and addiction to alcohol and other drugs
- Advise the County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Administrator on goals and policies of the County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Administration and on any other related matters the County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Administrator refer to it or which are raised by the Commission
- Organize and assist in alcohol and other drug conferences in areas of the County
- Encourage and educate the public to understand the nature of addiction to alcohol and other drugs and related problems, and encourage support throughout the county for development and implementation of effective programs for prevention and treatment of alcohol and other drug abuse, addiction and related problems
- Do all other things necessary or helpful to reduce the illicit and problematic use of alcohol and other drugs

The Commission remains a dedicated and diversified entity providing discussion and perspective around topics and concerns related to the use and regulation of alcohol and other drugs within the County of Los Angeles. Through a diverse multicultural and comprehensive viewpoint involving a wide variety of community representatives, the commission provides advocacy on the importance of substance use prevention and treatment among all age groups and populations residing within the county. The Commission is committed in supporting and partnering with Department of Public Health Substance Abuse, Prevention and Control and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to create a system of inclusive integrated services by advocating thorough policy, planning, education, prevention, and recovery, those services that are designed to address and reduce the negative impact of alcohol and other drug use on the quality of life for children, youth, and adults in Los Angeles County.

KEY ISSUES IMPACTING AT-RISK AND SYSTEMS-INVOLVING ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

For our Commission, as well as others in 2022, difficulties were presented by the on-going restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic presenting challenges throughout the County and resulting from necessary public health measures. Traditionally, the Commission starts the new year by considering and adjusting its strategic priorities to what are the most important issues. Despite the challenges we welcomed six new Commissioners to complete our roster. These shifts in composition have increased diversity in thought and experience. This will help us to complete our mission of informing the BOS on concerning issues plaguing our communities.

Substance use aggravated by isolation during the pandemic have increased throughout the nation and in Los Angeles County creating an epidemic of its own. Fentanyl laced drugs have evolved to every corner of the county and affecting not only the adult population but also youth in increasing numbers with devastating results of increased overdoses and deaths. Alcohol use and abuse has also increased during the pandemic resulting in deaths at rates higher than previously seen. The toll this takes on learning institutions, families and the community at large is widespread creating the need for increased prevention, education and harm reduction strategies being at the forefront of our societal needs.

The Commission is tightly integrated with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Substance Abuse and Prevention Control (SAPC), the principal agency within the County authorized to create and maintain County programs designed to assist in the prevention of alcohol and drug related problems and to coordinate and support County efforts to provide treatment and recovery options for its residents confronting alcohol and drug issues and substance use disorders.

The CAOD adopted and enacted a new strategic plan with a focus on prevention. To that end, we adopted a new Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF). The SPF six step planning process guides the development of prevention services. The following is a list of our strategic priorities and how we informed and educated the commission in each of these areas.

COAD's strategic plan focused on five (5) Priority Areas, including:

- Priority 1: Address Substance Use Disorder Treatment Effectiveness and Efficiency
- Priority 2: Focus efforts on the Opioid, Fentanyl and Meth Crisis
- Priority 3: Improve Services and Outcomes for County's Youth
- Priority 4: Improve Collaboration with the Board of Supervisors, other Commissions, Departments, Agencies, and Jurisdictions
- Priority 5: Marijuana Education and Regulation

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2022

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ADDRESS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY

Goal 1: Identify opportunities and funding sources to improve and enhance current county programs addressing substance use disorders (SUDs), providing access to effective treatment, and exploring efforts to reduce recidivism.

Goal 2: Address and support integration of services pertaining to Cal-Aim implementation, co-occurring disorders & integration of services including increased collaboration with diversion programs.

Goal 3: Support the integration of SAPC's well-being centers which provide mental health and other support services to those with SUDs and their families.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: FOCUS EFFORTS ON THE OPIOID, FENTANYL AND METH CRISIS

Goal 1: Increase awareness through education and outreach; and promote programs that directly address the opioid, fentanyl and meth crisis.

Goal 2: Improve strategies involving MAT (medically assisted treatment) and harm reduction methodologies.

Goal 3: Work with the SAPC Meth Taskforce and DEA Community Engagement on the implementation of contingency management for stimulant use disorder.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: IMPROVE SERVICES AND OUTCOMES FOR COUNTY'S YOUTH

Goal 1: Advocate for improved K-12 school and community-based preventive efforts and effective programs for young people, including those in foster care.

Goal 2: Make recommendations to SAPC as they continue to refine and enhance benefits available to youth.

Goal 3: Examine options for State, County and local regulations regarding Sober Living, Transitional Housing and Bridge Housing.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: IMPROVE COLLABORATION WITH THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, OTHER COMMISSIONS, DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, AND JURISDICTIONS

Goal 1: Improve communications with the Board and staff to further the mission of the commission and the will of the Board with regard to these strategic goals.

Goal 2: Enhance cooperation with other county commissions/departments including Mental Health, Disabilities, and Youth to further our mutual goals.

Goal 3: Explore other jurisdiction models to replicate and incorporate their solutions to meet our goals.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: MARIJUANA EDUCATION AND REGULATION

Goal 1: Monitor legislation and the negative impact of Marijuana use on underserved communities.

Goal 2: Assist with preventative efforts particularly aimed at youth.

Goal 3: Support more robust and effective K-12 marijuana education.

COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS MEETINGS

Commission meetings are the primary vehicle through which information regarding alcohol and other drug related issues in Los Angeles County is disseminated and the venue at which policy matters are considered and recommendations are developed.

During 2022, the Commission held 11 regular meetings during which reports, and presentations were given in alignment with our strategic goals by County departments, advocates and stakeholders on SUD related issues, services and programs were provided. The meeting topics included:

Harm Reduction Services

Shoshanna Scholar
Director of Harm Reduction and Community Based Diversion in the Office of Diversion and Reentry

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Annette Kunzman
President of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Network of Southern California

Addressing Drug Addiction Within the Horse Racing Community

Darin Scharer
Executive Director of Winners Foundation

Overview of the Hollywood 2.0 Program

Dr. Curley L. Bonds
Chief Medical Officer of Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

Virtual Reality Tool in Drug Treatment

Lima Jevremovic
Chief Executive Officer of Aura

Treatment for People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH)

Monica Molina and Yanira A. Lima
Chief of Treatment Services Branch at SAPC

Prevention Services Focus

Stephanie Chen
Chief of Community and Youth Engagement for SAPC

Meth Free Campaign Evaluation Results

Rangell Oruga
Health Program Analyst for SAPC

Current Drug Trends and DEA Resources

Bill Bodner, Special Agent in Charge of the Los Angeles Field Division, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

Delta-8 THC

Dr. Brian Hurley
Medical Director of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC)

Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Annual Address

Dr. Gary Tsai
Director of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP)

Patrick Gauthier
Director of Healthcare Solutions

Report from Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

Michelle Gibson, MPH
Deputy Division Director for Treatment Services of SAPC

Health Deputy Roundtable

Health Deputy Anthony Cespedes - 1st District
Health Deputy Yolanda Vera– 2nd District
Health Deputy Julia Mockeridge – 4th District
Health Deputy Anders Corey – 5th District

The Commission also has two active committees that meet prior to the general meeting. These include the Education and Prevention Committee and the Policy and Planning Committee. The topics discussed during 2022 include:

EDUCATION AND PREVENTION COMMITTEE

- Sherriff's Departments Youth Focused Programs - Jamielyn Flores, Executive Director of the Sheriff's Youth Foundation
- Environmental Prevention Strategies at Day One - Claudia Hathcock, Director of Environmental Prevention Strategies
- New Approach in Substance Use Disorder Treatment for People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH) - Dr. Brian Hurley, Medical Director Substance Abuse Prevention and Control
- Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Wellness Program for Community Health and Safe Schools - Jewel Forbes, Project Director II of Community Health, and Safe Schools for LACOE
- Current Programs and Focuses of the District Attorney's Office - Special Advisor to the District Attorney Alex Bastian from the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
- Los Angeles AI-Impics - Ashlee King, Interim Housing Operations Manager
- Impact of Substance Use on Youth - Jeff Farber, Executive Director of Helpline Youth Counseling
- Overview of the D.A.R.E. Program - Dennis Osborn, D.A.R.E. Program Western Region Director

POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

- AB 1598 (Davies) Controlled substances: paraphernalia: controlled substance testing
- AB 1599 (Kiley, Gallagher, Patterson): Proposition 47: repeal
- AB 1627 (Ramos): Opioid overdose prevention
- AB 1860 (Ward): Substance abuse treatment: registration and certification
- AB 2473 (Nazarian): substance use disorder: counselors
- AB 2896 (Santiago): Alcoholic beverages: third-party delivery platforms
- H.R. 4203 (Rep. Mullin, Markwayne [R-OK-2]): Improving Medicaid Programs' Response to Overdose Victims and Enhancing Addiction Care Act or the IMPROVE Addiction Care Act
- S.1575 (Toomey, Patrick [R-PA]): IMPROVE Addiction Care Act
- SB 57 (Wiener): Controlled substances:

overdose prevention program

hours of sale

- SB 793 (Wiener) Alcoholic beverages: music venue licenses
- SB 864 (Melendez): General acute care hospitals: drug screening
- SB 914 (Rubio): HELP Act
- SB 930 (Wiener): Alcoholic beverages:
- SB 1016 (Portantino): Special education: eligibility: fetal alcohol spectrum disorder
- SB 1097 (Pan): Cannabis and cannabis products: labeling and advertisement
- SB 1338 (Umberg and Eggman): Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to the seriousness of the impact of the necessary Covid-19 restrictions on people and programs dealing with substance abuse and addiction issues, the Commission recommends again to the Board of Supervisors that budget cuts occasioned by the pandemic in the County budget not be administered across-the-board to include SAPC's budget, so that existing departmental programs could be maintained even as substance use issues facing County residents have increased as a result of public health measures necessary to control spread of the pandemic.

During 2022 the Policy and Planning committee after a lengthy examination of Senate Bill 793 made a recommendation to the full Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs which voted unanimously on the following formal resolution to the Board of Supervisors concerning this legislation:

WHEREAS, SB793 authored by Senator Scott Weiner would authorize the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to issue a music venue license to sell beer, wine, and distilled spirits at retail for consumption on the premises and permit consumers to leave the premises with open containers of alcoholic beverages for consumption off the premises within an "entertainment zone."

WHEREAS, SB793 authorizes a city or county, on or after January 1, 2023, to create "entertainment zones" which allow for the consumption of one or more types of alcoholic beverages on public streets, sidewalks, or public rights-of-way.

WHEREAS, SB793 portends to help businesses recover from COVID lockdowns, but does nothing to assist those businesses, and actually opens those businesses to potentially civil liability;

WHEREAS, SB793 creates greater access for youth and others to consume open containers of alcoholic beverages in city streets and other public areas;

WHEREAS, SB793 promotes the consumption of open containers of alcoholic beverages in wider areas and in public spaces creating the additional possibility of negative impacts including in alcohol-related crime, violence and accidents including impaired driving;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, SB793 should be opposed because it adds new and additional opportunities for the consumption of open containers of alcoholic beverages in public spaces and does nothing to bolster the economic growth of small business. Instead, it would increase and enhance the possibility of alcohol-related crimes, accidents, and other negative impacts particularly among young people who frequent music venues in great numbers throughout the state.

Unfortunately, the above bill passed, and its affects will be monitored by the commission.

The Commission reviewed and supported other bills including:

SB 1016 Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder be recognized in schools as a disability making the diagnosis eligible for special education and related services- Bill passed

AB 2473 SUD workforce education bill requiring minimal education standards compared to peer specialist education hours in order to gain a more qualified SUD treatment workforce- Bill passed

AB1860- Exempts Graduate students in Master's programs of learning obtaining practicum hours from requiring registration/certification with an SUD certifying body to be able to deliver billable services in SUD treatment – Bill passed

SB-367 Requires Community Colleges, UC, and CSU campuses to have opioid overdose reversal medication on campuses readily available – Bill passed

COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

The Commission maintains a critical and distinct role in Los Angeles County. As advisors to the Board, and advocates for those with SUDs and their families, the Commission often serves as a bridge between the County and its partners, including the County service agencies, law enforcement, courts, philanthropy, the nonprofit sector, and the community. The Commission's experience, expertise and steadfast commitment to at-risk children, youth and adults has contributed to the forging of strong partnerships with some of the most important entities shaping public policy in Los Angeles County.

COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATION ON OTHER COUNTY/COMMUNITY BODIES

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Tony Bell | L.A. County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) |
| Amanda Cowan | MAT Community Advisory Board Prevention & Education in Communities of Color Grant UCLA- ISAP Community Advisory Board (CAB) for the Clinical Trials Network (CTN) Project Community Advisory Board for IAS PhD Candidate |
| Deena Duncan | California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executive SAPC Advisory Committee |
| Jozef Essavi | Los Angeles County Small Business Commission |
| Alicia Garoupa | Countywide Prevention Services Taskforce |
| Lou La Monte | Meals on Wheels West Board Member |
| Tonya McKenzie | Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce – Board Member Black Public Relations Society – Vice President of Membership North Redondo Beach Business Association – President Redondo Beach Police Dept – Community Engagement Board Advisor Better Youth – Advisory Council Redondo Beach General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) Redondo Beach Emergency Crisis Council |
| Dean Nakanishi | National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse, Board Chair |
| Juan Navarro | Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Board member of the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE) Board member of the PIH Health – Community Benefit Oversight Committee AI-Impics Planning Committee |

- Dr. Sharona R. Nazarian President for the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills
Public Works Commissioner for Beverly Hills
USC Hillel Executive Board
Co-President of Beverly Hills Sister City
- Bennet W. Root, Jr Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission
- Johng Ho Song Queens Care Charitable Foundation Board
- Jerry Velasco Mexican American Opportunity Foundation
San Gabriel Valley Civic Alliance
El Monte Promise Foundation
- Wendie Warwick AI-Impics Planning Committee
- Howard Winkler West Coast Vaad Hachessed

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The Commission works closely with the Los Angeles Department of Public Health (DPH) and its Division of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) and participates annually in the AI-Impics event.

The following are highlights about programs and initiatives implemented throughout this year which aim at helping Los Angeles County residents reduce the impact of substance use on individuals and communities through prevention, harm reduction and treatment services, including assisting those who are beginning or navigating their road to recovery.

2022 milestones and highlights:

AI-Impics



SAPC sponsored the annual substance use disorder (SUD) awareness and recovery sports event, known as the AI-Impics. The 2022 AI-Impics event, planned and implemented in partnership with Special Services for Groups, the AI-Impics Planning Committee, and iHeartMedia, brought together individuals in treatment and recovery, their families and local leaders/community members, to join in the spirit of healthy competition to demonstrate that “Reclaim, Renew in 2022.”

California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Funding Opportunities

In July 2022, SAPC-contractor Behavioral Health Services, Inc opened the Respite and Recovery Center - Sobering Center at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Behavioral Health Center (MLK BHC). SAPC has entered into contract with one Managed Care Plan (MCP) to provide sobering center services to MCP members and anticipate an additional three MCP contracts to be executed by the end of 2022. DPH-SAPC applied for a CalAIM Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) Capacity and Infrastructure Transition, Expansion and Development (CITED) Initiative funding to explore the ability to become an alternate destination drop off site for emergency services. Awards are due to be announced in January 2023.

Behavioral Health Quality Improvement Program (BHQIP) - an incentive-based payment program that supports County efforts to implement often challenging and complex transitions under the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC ODS) and CalAIM. Incentives are tied to specific time-sensitive goals and milestones and require achieving deliverables met through submission of supporting documentations. For the two submission periods during this year SAPC has worked with the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to successfully meet the required deliverables, thereby, gaining access to incentive funds.

Care First Community Investment (CFCI; Measure J):

For Fiscal Year (FY) 22-23, DPH-SAPC received \$2 million/year in CFCI funds to provide SUD Court Based Diversion, a portion of which was allocated to provide Client Engagement and Navigation Services (CENS) at three Courthouses serving the Rapid Diversion Program and the remaining to provide residential SUD treatment services. In addition, DPH-SAPC received \$2 million/year to expand Recovery Bridge Housing capacity, \$2 million/year to expand harm reduction services, \$1 million/year to support a tuition incentive program focused on the SUD counselor workforce, and an additional \$4,230,000/year from the Jail Closure Implementation Team’s (JCIT) CFCI allocation to support the closure of Men's Central Jail and divert people with SUD into treatment services.

Measure H:

In FY 22-23, DPH-SAPC received an additional \$1 million to expand Recovery Bridge Housing capacity to people experiencing homelessness (PEH) exiting institutions and an additional \$618,000 to provide CENS services at Permanent Supportive Housing locations.

Collaboration Among the Health Departments

DPH-SAPC collaborated with DMH and Department of Health Services (DHS) to implement integrated services at the Martin Luther King Behavioral Health Center (MLK BHC). In the Fall of 2022, 90% of the SUD services became operational at the MLK BHC. These services are operated by DPH-SAPC contracted providers and include outpatient and intensive outpatient services (Tarzana Treatment Center), and residential and sobering center services (HealthRight 360). Both residential and residential withdrawal management services are in the process of being Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) certified by the State. During this period, successful cross-referrals and connections have occurred between the hospital, primary care, mental health and SUD providers on the MLK campus.

DPH-SAPC, in conjunction with DMH, opted-in to the State's Peer Support Services program beginning FY 22-23 with Certifications administered by the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA). During the past year, DPH-SAPC has established rates and staffing guidelines for peers, initiated associated configuration of the electronic health record system, and conducted a landscape survey to better understand how provider network agencies currently utilize peers.

Student Wellbeing Centers

As of January 2022, the Wellbeing Centers are again open on 38 campuses with three additional sites slated to open January of 2023. The focus of the work, bringing critical health education and supportive services onto campus, provides high school students access to the learning and services needed to address substance use and enhance mental and sexual health. The Centers are closely aligned with other DPH-SAPC programs linking students who need SUD early intervention, treatment, and/or recovery. Since April 2022, 9,212 students have utilized the services of the Wellbeing Centers, and 187 parents have participated in educational sessions to enhance family communication and their students' wellbeing.

RecoverLA

Expansion updates have been made to DPH-SAPC's mobile-friendly community-facing SUD resource guide and app - www.RecoverLA.org - to facilitate Los Angeles County residents' ability to find and access available SUD prevention, harm reduction, and treatment resources. These updates have included:

- Additional overdose prevention information
- Two educational videos in the ABCs of SUD series: one in English and one in Spanish
- At-a-glance, one-click option to access DPH-SAPC developed overdose and fentanyl factsheets:
 - Fentanyl in Los Angeles County
 - Talking Points to Parents and Youth
 - Learn about Naloxone
 - Three Resource Toolkits targeting parents, teachers/school staff and students.

In partnership with Shatteproof, DPH-SAPC participated in the annual Rise Up Against Addiction 5k Walk/Run on November 18, 2022 and distributed RecoverLA promotional materials, overdose prevention information and other resources.

RecoverLA was highlighted in the televised Los Angeles County Fentanyl Townhall hosted by

the District Attorney's office, which included panel participation by DPH-SAPC's Director, Dr. Gary Tsai.

Development of the Fentanyl Prevention Media Campaign

Given the urgency to address fentanyl using multi-pronged public health strategies, DPH-SAPC has committed funding to provide a Countywide fentanyl media campaign in order to educate the public on the consumer risks and harms of fentanyl overdoses, particularly for youth and young adults. The media campaign is scheduled to be implemented in 2023.

Alcohol Outreach and Education Messaging – Pace Your Party

In an effort to counteract college binge drinking as part of the 'college experience', DPH-SAPC introduced a program focusing on medium and high-risk college students, themed 'Pace Your Party'. The goal of this program is to engage college students directly and, if they choose to consume alcohol, empower them to stay in control. Through a series of outreach events at major college campuses throughout the County and through social media, students are encouraged to reduce their intake and follow other health promotion tips. Rather than focusing on abstinence messaging, which would fail to resonate with those at most risk, this program focuses on misuse prevention.

Youth System of Care – Expansion of Learning Management System

DPH-SAPC collaborated with Azusa Pacific University to expand the Youth System of Care Learning Management System (LMS) that includes online trainings for providers who deliver services to youth (12-17) and young adults (18-20). The LMS is accessible 24/7 at www.YouthSystemofCare.com and contains 18 modules that address youth-specific topics. Since launch, 497 users have registered for trainings on LMS and have completed 1,292 modules and been awarded 352 continuing education (CE) credits. In September 2022, additional modules were completed and uploaded into LMS including: Family-Based Services, Multicultural Competence and Cultural Humility, Pharmacology of Stimulants, Co-Occurring Disorders, and Clinical Supervision.

Field Based Services In-Home Services Pilot

During FY 21-22, DPH-SAPC developed, implemented, and is currently evaluating a pilot expansion of its Field Based Services benefit to allow for provision of in-home services. The pilot was designed to increase access to SUD treatment services by allowing for the provision of services at a patient's place of residence with the goal of targeting historically difficult to serve populations (e.g., arsonists, people experiencing homelessness, medically vulnerable, individuals with physical limitations, youth who require family involvement, pregnant and parenting women, postpartum women, and others), by addressing barriers to access and participation in traditional treatment settings, increasing patient participation and retention in treatment services, and increasing family engagement, particularly for youth.

Early Intervention (ASAM 0.5) Services Benefit

In October 2022, DPH-SAPC implemented the Early Intervention Services (ASAM 0.5) to meet the needs of youth and young adults who are at risk but do not meet medical necessity for a SUD. Early Intervention Services include all DMC reimbursable services in outpatient settings and are available to youth and young adults (age 12 through 20 years old) based on clinical need. DPH-SAPC developed the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Screener for Youth and Young Adults to screen this population for access to Early Intervention Services

and is training providers and entryway staff on how to utilize the screener.

Friday Night Live (FNL)

The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Friday Night Live (FNL) team hosted a youth summit with students from Hacienda La Puente Unified School District to provide prevention education workshops. Staff also chaperoned a group of youth to the California Friday Night Live Partnership youth summit in Anaheim in June 2022 where students learned more about leadership strategies, youth development and prevention education.

Our SPOT Program

Our SPOT programming resumed to in-person activities. A few notable highlights include an Earth Day Cleanup and Water Safety Program with the Department of Beaches and Harbor, a workshop that included a high ropes challenge in partnership with UCLA called Trusting and Facing Your Fears, the Our SPOT Artist Experience where through various forms of expressive arts, participants showcased their story about the vital role having a place to feel safe and connect in their local park has on their lives, and a field trip to San Diego State University as part of the Pathways to College series.

MAT Expansion

In January 2022, DPH-SAPC published the Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Access in the SAPC Treatment Network Information Notice clarifying pathways for MAT for patients served within the DPH-SAPC contracted provider network. DPH-SAPC conducted bimonthly MAT trainings, provided on-request MAT trainings, and through RecoverLA and these trainings continue to maintain and promote the MatWorks.org website. In July 2022, DPH-SAPC updated MAT rates to incentivize providers to offer or expand these services.

Overdose Awareness and Response

DPH-SAPC increased awareness and promoted programs to increase awareness of the overdose crisis involving opioids including fentanyl and methamphetamine, posted on the RecoveryLA site; launched a new Overdose Prevention section to the website <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/public/overdose-prevention.htm> that hosts information sheets, toolkits, and videos for the community; and published a dedicated Report on Fentanyl Overdoses in Los Angeles County and Update: Report on Accidental Drug Overdose Deaths During the COVID-19 Pandemic in November 2022 to increase community awareness of the overdose crisis. DPH hosted a Virtual Town Hall on fentanyl on October 12, 2022, and partnered with the Los Angeles District Attorney (DA) to arrange a press event on November 29, 2022 announcing the establishment of a fentanyl work group involving law enforcement and prosecutors.

COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2022 was another very difficult year, especially for those in our community who were struggling with substance use and abuse issues, as well as the dedicated workforce and volunteers that served them. Throughout the pandemic, the Commission has maintained a full Virtual meeting schedule, working to address our strategic priorities on a range of issues to assist the community and providers who are relentlessly working to better the lives of LA County residents. I want to express my deepest gratitude to all our commissioners for their commitment throughout this year, our SAPC County support liaison, Ronae Harrison, and our partnership with LA County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Department of Public Health for providing their expertise on all related subject matter in the quest to strengthen services to the Communities, Families, Schools and Individuals within the county.

We worked hard to increase our knowledge on the various issues surrounding the youth and adult populations living in communities within LA County. We received presentations and expertise from Dr. Gary Tsai, Director of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC); Dr. Brian Hurley, Medical Director of SAPC; Michelle Gibson, MPH, Deputy Division Director for Treatment Services of SAPC; Dr. Curley L. Bonds, Chief Medical Officer of Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health; Bill Bodner, Special Agent in Charge of the Los Angeles Field Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); Annette Kunzman, President of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Network of Southern California; Shoshanna Scholar, Director of Harm Reduction and Community Based Diversion in the Office of Diversion and Reentry; Darin Scharer, Executive Director of Winners Foundation; Lima Jevremovic, Chief Executive Officer of Aura; Patrick Gauthier, Director of Healthcare Solutions; Yanira A. Lima, Chief of Treatment Services Branch; Stephanie Chen, Chief of Community and Youth Engagement for SAPC; Rangell Oruga, Health Program Analyst for SAPC

We are currently in conversations with the LA County Commissions on Mental Health and Disabilities to strengthen our collaboration on issues presenting within Los Angeles County.

Our Sub-Committees, Policy and Planning, led by Chair Deena Duncan and Education and Prevention led by Chair Dr Mark Ryan, have been invaluable this year in opening new and important avenues of discussion and tracking legislation that affects key issues that our Commission's strategic priorities aim to address.

We look forward to a future, living with the Coronavirus due to increased knowledge and better implementation of protections in order to focus our resources on making progress against the many substance use and abuse issues facing the County.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.
Deena Duncan, LMFT, LAADC
Chair