

May 4, 2010

To: Substance Use Disorder Treatment Delivery System Stakeholders
From: Interagency Committee on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment
Subject: Substance Use Disorder Treatment Delivery System Budget Management

The Interagency Committee on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment held their quarterly meeting on April 28th. The Committee discussed the current status of the substance use disorder treatment system and the impact of the budget reduction measures on the delivery of services. Preliminary expenditure reports reflect that the measures approved by the Committee over the last two months are starting to generate the necessary reductions required to manage the system throughout the final months of the fiscal year. The following summary provides a recap of the budget reduction measures taken in fiscal year 2010:

Treatment Services:

- Reduction of intensive outpatient and outpatient clients by 20%
- Cap imposed on Adult Residential Care of 25 beds
- Cap imposed on Adolescent Residential Care of 41 beds
- Suspension of admissions of federal grant priority populations and careful review of length of stay for all clients in treatment
- Reduction of Drug Court expenditures with a combination of strategies including suspended admissions, reduced treatment and early discharge

Recovery Support Services:

- Reduction of Safe & Sober housing from 1 year to 6 months
- Elimination of Family, Marital and Life Skills Classes
- Suspension of transportation services

In addition, it was decided that, in order to meet the cash flow requirements of the system in the final quarter, distribution of incentive payments to the provider network is not possible at this time.

In the next few weeks, the Committee will begin meeting to set the fiscal year 2011 budget and determine what actions will need to be made on-going. We understand the incredible challenge these reductions have imposed on your organization and the individuals that you serve. We continue to work to develop improvements in the management of our system in these difficult times.

Sincerely,

Sharon Burke, Chair
Interagency Committee on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment
Office of Drug Policy