MEETING MINUTES
Narcotic Treatment Program Advisory Committee

1700 K Street, First Floor Conference Room
February 6, 2017

Members Present:
Karen Baylor, DHCS  Steve Day
Marlies Perez, DHCS  Jason Kletter, Ph.D.
Michele Wong, DHCS  Judy Martin, MD
Michael Freeman, DHCS  Steve Maulhardt
Pelumi Abimbola, DHCS  Laura Rossi, Ph.D.
Marco Zolow, DHCS  Al Senella
John Pugliese, CDPH  Brad Shapiro
Steve Wirtz, CDPH
Maria Ochoa, DHCS

Welcome / Opening Remarks – SUDCD, Marlies Perez
DHCS presented information on the status of the Medi-Cal 2020 waiver implementation. Nineteen counties have submitted implementation plans that, in total, cover 60 percent of California’s population. Riverside and San Mateo counties began providing waiver services February 1, 2017. DHCS is currently working with the External Quality Review Organization provider and the University of California, Los Angeles to collect data.

The Substance Use Disorders (SUD) 2017 Statewide Conference will be held August 22-24, 2107 in Pomona, California. Keynote speaker will be Sam Quinones, author of Dreamland: The True Tale of America’s Opiate Epidemic. DHCS will be asking for workshop presenters for the conference and would like to have the Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) field represented, more information to follow.

Overview of 21st Century Cures Act – SUDCD, Pelumi Abimbola
DHCS provided an overview of the 21st Century Cures Act. Former President Barack Obama signed the 21st Century Cures Act into law on December 13, 2016. The 21st Century Cures Act made $1 billion available to states for opioid prevention and treatment services over two years. Organizational changes brought forth by the Cures Act include establishing the position of Assistant Secretary within the Department of Health and Human Services and
Chief Medical Officer within SAMHSA. Reauthorization of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), and Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality also occurred with the passage of the 21st Century Cures Act. The reauthorization of CSAT and CSAP included the same level of funding appropriated in Federal Fiscal Year 2016 for discretionary grant programs.

The 21st Century Cures Act supports the development and improvement of SUD and mental health services programs. SUD initiatives include strengthening SUD workforce, and early intervention services for adolescents. Mental Health initiatives include increasing access to pediatric mental health care, and collaboration between the Center for Mental Health Services and the National Institute of Mental Health.

State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grant (STR Grant) – SUDCD, Marlies Perez
DHCS is applying for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) STR grant. SAMHSA released the grant application on December 17, 2016, with a due date of February 17, 2017. In California, DHCS is the only entity that may apply. The primary objectives of the grant include expanding MAT; reducing unmet treatment needs; and reducing opioid overdose related deaths through provisions of prevention, treatment, and recovery activities. SAMHSA allocated California $44.7 million a year for two years with no state matching funds required. This funding will only be available one time. SAMHSA requires at least 80% of the funds to be used for treatment and recovery services. DHCS will propose a hub and spoke model utilizing the NTP as the hub and buprenorphine providers as the spokes. DHCS’ focus of this grant will be on reaching rural areas, increasing statewide access to buprenorphine, and increasing MAT access to California’s American Indian and Native Alaskan tribal communities. DHCS is looking to award funding to 15 hub and spoke models through the Request for Proposal process, with up to $5.2 million over two years. For counties that have a NTP, the NTP will be the lead entity. For counties that do not have a NTP, the lead entity could be the county, an AOD facility, a Federally Qualified Health Center or other group. The request for proposal will include detailed information about the grant.

CDPH Opioid Dashboard – CDPH, Steve Wirtz and John Pugliese
California Department of Public Health (CDPH) presented information on their Opioid Overdose Surveillance Dashboard. The dashboard and data available through this application are the result of ongoing collaboration between the CDPH, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, Department of Justice, and the California Health Care Foundation. The goal of the dashboard is to provide a data tool with enhanced data visualization and integration of statewide and geographically-specific non-fatal and fatal opioid-involved overdose and opioid prescription data. The dashboard will enable surveillance of several short and long-term goals currently targeted by California's Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention program.

CDPH's Opioid Overdose Surveillance Dashboard is located at https://pdop.shinyapps.io/ODdash_v1/
Please submit any additional suggestions for CDPH’s Dashboard to California’s Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention program to PDOP@cdph.ca.gov.

**State Opioid Treatment Authority Update – SUDCD, Michael Freeman**
Substance Use Disorder Compliance Division’s Narcotic Treatment Program section is renamed the Counselor & Medication Assisted Treatment (CMAT) section. The section’s name is now inclusive of all the work the section performs. The CMAT section is also reorganizing which includes hiring an additional supervisor to aid with the section’s workload demands.

**Medication Units – SUDCD, Michael Freeman**
The CMAT section is in the final stages of approving California’s first medication unit. The medication unit will be located in Shasta County. DHCS is working with the US Drug Enforcement Administration to schedule an initial site visit before the end of February. Title 9 Regulations currently allow for medication units and are an encouraged model for organizations who want to expand to a rural area or county without an NTP.

**Program, Policy, and Fiscal Division Update – SUD-PPFD, Marco Zolow**
The claims process for non-ODS waiver services will remain unchanged. An information notice addressing the billing process for the county of residence versus the county of treatment will be released shortly.

**NTP Regulations Update – SUDCD, Michael Freeman**
The NTP regulation package is in the final step of internal DHCS approval. The regulation package will then move to the California Health and Human Services Agency and Department of Finance for approval, prior to being open for public comment. Stakeholders will be notified when the regulation package is available for public comment.

**Counselor Certifying Organization Regulations and Info Notice – SUDCD, Michele Wong**
Assembly Bill (AB) 2374 (Mansoor), requires an individual to become registered or certified with a department-approved certifying organization prior to providing counseling services and provided DHCS with oversight of the department-approved certifying organizations. AB 2374 also granted DHCS bulletin authority until regulations are adopted. DHCS generated Mental Health Substance Use Disorder Services (MHSUDS) Information Notice 16-058, establishing requirements for the implementation of AB 2374.


**Agenda Items for the Next Meeting**
The next advisory committee meeting will be held at 1700 K Street, First Floor Conference Room, on July 25, 2017.

No agenda items were suggested.
Please submit any additional suggestions for agenda items to the NTP Section at DHCSNTP@dhcs.ca.gov.

The Department would like to work collaboratively with the Narcotic Treatment Program Advisory Committee and is committed to addressing all NTP issues and obtaining input from the experts in the field. The Department’s mission is to provide Californians with access to affordable, high-quality health care, including medical, dental, mental health, substance use treatment services, and long-term care. Our vision is to preserve and improve the overall health and well-being of all Californians.

Meeting adjourned at 2pm.