



MICHELLE BAASS
DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

June 30, 2022

Sent via e-mail to: skuwahara@kernbhcs.org

Stacy Kuwahara, Director
Kern Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
P.O. Box 1000
Bakersfield, CA 93302

SUBJECT: Annual SABG County Compliance Unit Findings Report

Dear Director Kuwahara:

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is responsible for monitoring compliance to requirements of the Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) and the terms of the Contract operated by Kern County.

The County Compliance Unit (CCU) within the Audits and Investigations Division (A&I) of DHCS conducted a review of the County's compliance with contract requirements based on responses to the monitoring instrument, discussion with county staff, and supporting documentation provided by the County.

This letter serves as notification that Kern County has sufficiently met all regulations and contract requirements during FY 2021-22. During the review, no deficiencies were found. No further action is required at this time.

If you have any questions, please contact me at becky.counter@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Becky Counter
(916) 713-8567

Audits and Investigations Division
Medical Review Branch
Behavioral Health Compliance Section
County Compliance Unit
1500 Capitol Ave., MS 2305
Sacramento, CA 95814
<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov>

Distribution:

To: Director Kuwahara,

CC: Mateo Hernandez, Audits and Investigations, Medical Review Branch Acting Chief
Lanette Castleman, Audits and Investigations, Behavioral Health Compliance Section Chief
Ayesha Smith, Audits and Investigations, Behavioral Health Compliance Unit Chief
Michael Bivians, Audits and Investigations, County Compliance Monitoring II Chief
Cindy Berger, Audits and Investigations, Provider Compliance Unit Chief
Tracie Walker, Community Services Division, Community Support Branch Chief
Denise Galvez, Community Services Division, Operations Branch Chief
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MCBHDMonitoring@dhcs.ca.gov, County/Provider Operations and Monitoring Branch
Ana Olvera, Kern County SUD Administrator
Amber Lopez, Kern County, Quality Improvement Division (QID), Planning Analyst

COUNTY REVIEW INFORMATION

County:

Kern

County Contact Name/Title:

Amber Lopez/QID Planning Analyst

County Address:

P.O. Box 1000
Bakersfield, CA 93302

County Phone Number/Email:

(661) 301-6809
amlopez@kernbhhs.org

Date of Review:

6/7/2022

Lead CCU Analyst:

Becky Counter

Assisting CCU Analyst:

N/A

Report Prepared by:

Becky Counter

Report Approved by:

Ayesha Smith

REVIEW SCOPE

- I. Regulations:
 - a. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, section 51341.1 – Drug Medi-Cal Substance Use Disorder Services
 - b. Code of Federal Regulations; Title 45, Part 96; Subpart L; section 96.121 through 96.137: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
 - c. United States Code, Title 42, Section 300x-21 through 300x-66: Block Grants regarding Mental Health and Substance Use
 - d. Health and Safety Code, Division 10.5, Section 11750 – 11970: Alcohol and Drug Programs

- II. Program Requirements:
 - a. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) Application, herein referred to as the SABG Application
 - b. Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) Application, herein referred to as the SABG Application
 - c. State of California *Youth Treatment Guidelines Revised August 2002*
 - d. DHCS *Perinatal Practice Guidelines FY 2018-19*
 - e. National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS)
 - f. Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Services (MHSUDS) Information Notices
 - g. Behavioral Health Information Notices (BHIN)

ENTRANCE AND EXIT CONFERENCE SUMMARIES

Entrance Conference:

An Entrance Conference was conducted via WebEx on 6/7/2022. The following individuals were present:

- Representing DHCS:
Becky Counter, Associate Governmental Program Analyst (AGPA)
- Representing Kern County:
Stacy Kuwahara, Director
Lesleigh Davis, Quality Improvement Division (QID) Administrator
Ana Olvera, SUD Administrator
Tony Perez, QID Coordinator of Administrative and Legislative Analysis
Amber Lopez, QID Planning Analyst
Rafael Lopez, QID Planning Analyst
Lorena Boykins, Program Coordinator, SUD Provider Liaison Team
Candee Del Rio, Finance Manager
Myeisha Dhillon, QID Coordinator of Administrative and Legislative Analysis
Heather Williams, QID Coordinator of Administrative and Legislative Analysis
Donna Robinson, QID Unit Supervisor
Jessica Armstrong, Contracts Division Administrator
Karina Leonzo-Castillo, QID Unit Supervisor, Contracts Division
Gregory Gonzalez, Gateway Team Unit Supervisor
Melanie McIntyre, EHR Supervisor-CalOMS
Courtney Isaac, Patients' Rights Unit Supervisor
Jonathan Monsibais, Patients' Rights Office Services Technician
Joy Quiton-Buaya, Department Supports Administrator
Sarah Gutierrez, Corporate Compliance Officer
Ann Sherwood, prevention Program Coordinator
Erika Rosales, SUD Administrator, Unit Supervisor
Kathy Gildez, SUD Administrator, Office Services Specialist

During the Entrance Conference, the following topics were discussed:

- Introductions
- Overview of review process
- Overview of services provided

Exit Conference:

An Exit Conference was conducted via WebEx on 6/7/2022. The following individuals were present:

- Representing DHCS:
Becky Counter, AGPA

- Representing Kern County:
Stacy Kuwahara, Director
Lesleigh Davis, Quality Improvement Division (QID) Administrator
Ana Olvera, SUD Administrator
Tony Perez, QID Coordinator of Administrative and Legislative Analysis
Amber Lopez, QID Planning Analyst
Rafael Lopez, QID Planning Analyst
Lorena Boykins, Program Coordinator, SUD Provider Liaison Team
Candee Del Rio, Finance Manager
Myeisha Dhillon, QID Coordinator of Administrative and Legislative Analysis
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Gregory Gonzalez, Gateway Team Unit Supervisor
Melanie McIntyre, EHR Supervisor-CalOMS
Courtney Isaac, Patients' Rights Unit Supervisor
Jonathan Monsibais, Patients' Rights Office Services Technician
Joy Quiton-Buaya, Department Supports Administrator
Sarah Gutierrez, Corporate Compliance Officer
Ann Sherwood, prevention Program Coordinator
Erika Rosales, SUD Administrator, Unit Supervisor
Kathy Gildez, SUD Administrator, Office Services Specialist

During the Exit Conference, the following topics were discussed:

- Submitting follow-up evidence
- Due date for evidence submission

SUMMARY OF FY 2021-22 COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES (CD)

<u>Section</u>	<u>Number of CD's</u>
1.0 Administration	0
2.0 Prevention	0
3.0 Perinatal	0
4.0 Adolescent/Youth Treatment	0
5.0 Data/CalOMS	0
6.0 Program Integrity	0
7.0 Fiscal	0

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Kern County did not request Technical Assistance during FY 21-22.