



# FACT SHEET

## PREVENTION SERVICES BRANCH

### Overview

The goal of the Prevention Services Branch (PSB) at the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) is to develop and maintain a comprehensive, statewide prevention system that averts and reduces problems resulting from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD). Prevention addresses availability, manufacturing, distribution, promotion, sale and individual use of ATOD and results in healthier, safer and stronger economic conditions for California residents. To achieve this goal and meet federal funding requirements, PSB works with counties to assist them in improving services, using the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention's [Strategic Prevention Framework \(SPF\)](#) and employing evidence-based programs and practices which are data and outcomes driven. Funding comes primarily from the federal government and is allocated to the counties using a population-based formula. Prevention serves three populations that are based on the risk level of developing a substance use problem, as defined by the Institute of Medicine Continuum of Care:

- *Universal* prevention serves the general population
- *Selective* prevention serves population subsets or groups at higher-than-average risk for substance use
- *Indicated* prevention serves nondependent individuals already using or engaging in other high-risk behaviors to prevent problematic use

Below are just a few of the various programs, projects and workgroups under PSB. For more information, visit Prevention Programs on ADP's website.

### Governor's Prevention Advisory Council (GPAC)

The GPAC is chaired by the Director of ADP. GPAC members are appointed by the Governor and represent ADP and other State agencies involved with substance use prevention issues, funding, and/or program-level support. GPAC's purpose is to coordinate the State's strategic efforts to achieve measurable reductions in the incidence and prevalence of the inappropriate use of alcohol and other drugs. This is achieved by strategically working together on substance use prevention issues of common concern such as underage drinking, binge drinking, high-rate underage use, implementing evidence-based practices, screening and brief intervention, and institutionalizing the SPF statewide.

### California Friday Night Live Partnership (CFNLP)

ADP contracts with the Tulare County Office of Education for the statewide technical assistance, training, and program support for all Friday Night Live (FNL) programs, which resulted in the formation of the CFNLP. Services provided to county FNL-affiliated programs include:

- An annual Youth Development survey to measure the effectiveness of the programs' administration of the peer-review Member-in-Good-Standing Process
- Program design and development assistance
- Technical assistance and training to incorporate the youth development and FNL Mentor models
- Development and distribution of research materials on innovative youth programs
- Supporting youth involvement and leadership in all phases of program planning and implementation
- Identifying new and existing cultural and geographically diverse youth organizations to work with the CFNLP to design new programs
- Use of web technology as a forum for youth, a resource for prevention information, and for FNL county coordinators to access programmatic information

### **Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG)**

In October 2010, ADP was awarded the SPF SIG by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), bringing to California approximately \$9.7 million over five years (\$1.94 million annually). The majority of this funding will go toward implementation of local programs. It is anticipated that evidence-based prevention services will be provided in approximately 12 to 15 communities in California.

### **Tobacco Sales to Minors (The Synar Amendment)**

The Synar Amendment is federal regulation requiring states to pass and enforce laws that prohibit the sale of tobacco to individuals under 18 years of

age. Briefly, the Synar Amendment requires California to:

- Achieve no more than a 20% rate of illegal tobacco sales to minors (The 2011 annual rate was 5.6%)
- Draw a probability sample among all available retail outlets accessible to youth and conduct annual, random, unannounced inspections. This percentage figure is used to establish whether the state is in compliance with the Synar Amendment
- Determine strategies that would most appropriately meet the requirement of the law (i.e., licensing system, graduated penalties, cigarette vending machine ban, etc.)

### **Training and Technical Assistance**

PSB offers technical assistance and training to counties and organizations to help reduce and prevent problems associated with ATOD use/abuse. These services, provided free of charge, focus on specific populations and subject areas. Interested organizations can obtain training and assistance via workshops, telephone or on-site consultation, referrals, and resource materials. Visit [www.ca-cpi.org](http://www.ca-cpi.org) for more information.

### **Workforce Development**

ADP is developing the Professional Competencies in Substance Abuse Prevention Training Series for the prevention field. These courses will initially be offered on-line, with future courses offered as in-person, small group trainings. The training series is designed to support and complement the California Certification Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors Prevention Specialist professional classification. While ADP is committed to providing training and technical assistance to support the promotion and acquisition of professional

competencies among the prevention field, participation is completely voluntary. Counties, organizations, and individuals can choose which training opportunities they would like to take advantage of and which staff to include.

As ADP moves forward with the development of professional competencies for the prevention field, we are committed to ensuring the field is informed along the way and given opportunities to provide input.

### **California Outcome Measurement Service for Prevention (CalOMS Pv)**

CalOMS Pv is a web-based data collection service, funded with the federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant, designed to track California's primary prevention service and activity data. CalOMS Pv is based on the five-step SPF. CalOMS Pv allows counties to:

- upload their county prevention strategic plan
- track needs and resource assessment data
- identify problem statements, goals and objectives;
- identify funding
- report service activities
- describe progress made toward meeting their goals and objectives

CalOMS Pv data is used for the SAPT Block Grant application.

### **Resource Center (RC)**

The RC maintains a comprehensive collection of ATOD prevention and treatment information that is provided to California residents at no cost through Lending Services, Conferences, Information Services, Internet Services and a Clearinghouse.

- *Lending Services* – A collection of specialized ATOD reference sources including books, journals, reports and audiovisual materials. Access to ADP historical documents is via the CA State Library
- *Conferences* – ATOD materials are provided for substance use-related conferences, events and workshops
- *Information Services* – The RC has a toll-free, non-crisis, non-emergency telephone number available for California residents needing ATOD prevention and treatment information, and an email address that can be utilized as well. Individuals seeking treatment are referred to their county alcohol and drug program office
- *Internet Services* – The RC's website offers ATOD information, listings of current publications and media, treatment facilities by county, and links to other sources of ATOD information
- *Clearinghouse* – ATOD booklets, pamphlets, research papers, posters, technical manuals and other printed materials are available upon request to the general public

For additional information, contact the Resource Center at (800) 879-2772.

Additional information regarding the Prevention efforts described in the fact sheet can be found on ADP's website at [www.adp.ca.gov](http://www.adp.ca.gov).