



California Access to Recovery Effort Monthly Update

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Contact Us:

www.california-cares4youth.com

CARE Call Center:

866.350.8773

New ATR Grant Funding Available

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has released the Request for Applications (RFA) for a third Access to Recovery (ATR) grant. SAMHSA expects to fund up to 30 states/tribal organizations for up to four years, and the maximum annual award amount will be \$4 million per grant. The application due date is March 10, 2010. The Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) intends to apply for this grant, and to assist us in developing a competitive proposal, we are asking for your input.

The RFA requires ATR 2 grantees to enhance or expand their program beyond the scope of ATR 2, and it strongly encourages applicants to address the needs of individuals returning from deployment in Iraq and Afghanistan. ADP is proposing to continue its focus on youth in the existing five target counties, with an expansion of the target population to include young veterans (through age 25).

We would appreciate your thoughts and ideas about our proposed scope, as well as any recommended changes to the existing CARE structure to improve the program. Because the timeframe is so short, **please forward your input to us no later than January 29, 2010.**

Client Satisfaction Surveys: Cross-Site Evaluation

If your organization has clients whose 6-month follow-up GPRAs are due between December 1, 2009 and February 28, 2010, you were mailed a packet from the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) containing client satisfaction survey forms and postage-paid envelopes. When conducting 6-month follow-up GPRAs between Dec. 1, 2009 and Feb. 28, 2010, you are required to give the client/former client the form to complete (without provider assistance). The client should seal it in the postage-paid envelope, and either return it to the provider to mail back to RTI, or mail it back themselves. This survey is critical to provide clients with a voice in the evaluation. RTI will be contacting providers next week to ensure there are no issues or questions with the surveys.

Clients Served & Funds Redeemed (as of 12/31/09)

Total clients served: 4,967 (1,170 were meth clients)
Total funds redeemed/billed: \$7,303,799 (\$2,309,976 was for meth clients)

**We want
your
success
stories!**

Please forward to ADP with the Client Consent Form located on the CARE website under "Provider Info".

Automated Payment System!!!

On February 1, 2010, the CARE program will be moving to an automated payment system. This new system will eliminate the use of paper invoices and considerably reduce the time for providers to receive payment. Training on use of the new system is being held via webinars over the next two weeks. Webinars are scheduled for Thursday, January 21st at 1:30 pm and Tuesday, January 26th at 1:30 pm. If you have not already signed up, please contact Jeanne Cornsilk at jcornsilk@adp.ca.gov to sign up for the training. She will then forward the website address and call-in information to you.

VMS Downtime

As a result of the new automated payment system, **the voucher management system (VMS) will be unavailable from 8 am Friday, January 29, 2010 through 8 am Monday, February 1, 2010** to allow time to program these important changes. The call center will be open on Friday to answer questions, but they will not be able to process any voucher requests that day, so please plan accordingly.

Organizational Changes, Including E-mail

Providers are required to notify CARE whenever there are organization changes, including changes to the public e-mail address posted on the provider directories.* The CARE program's main form of communication is through e-mail and we rely heavily on the most recent e-mail addresses provided to us. We understand that everyone is feeling the pressure to do more with less. However, you are required to complete the organizational change form whenever there are changes in the organization's physical or mailing address, telephone numbers, executive or program director, email address, or new assessors or family therapists. The form is available to download via the following link: http://www.californiacares4youth.com/downloads/organization%20info%20change%20revised%203_09.pdf

*To remove, add, or change an email address for someone other than the executive director, program director, or the provider directory contact, no organizational change form is required. You may provide that information to any staff in the CARE program via email or telephone.

Client File Documentation

Providers are required to document all billed services in the client's file. Reimbursement for services that cannot be verified in the client's file will be denied.

CARE is a program of the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs funded by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration