



JENNIFER KENT  
DIRECTOR

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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
GOVERNOR

DATE: October 26, 2016

MHSUDS INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 16-054

TO: COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM DIRECTORS  
COUNTY DRUG & ALCOHOL ADMINISTRATORS  
COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S ASSOCIATION  
CA COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AGENCIES  
COALITION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ASSOCIATIONS

SUBJECT: REVISED GUIDANCE ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND  
TREATMENT BLOCK GRANT (SABG) FUNDED HUMAN  
IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) EARLY INTERVENTION  
SERVICES (EIS)

**SUPERCEDES:** [MHSUDS Information Notice 16-012](#)

### PURPOSE

This notice provides clarification regarding the use of federal fiscal year (FFY) 2016 SABG funds to cover the cost of HIV EIS services.

### BACKGROUND

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) notified the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) that California's Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome case rate had fallen below threshold guidelines and thus the State no longer qualified as a HIV EIS designated state.

Therefore, on April 8, 2016, DHCS issued MHSUDS Information Notice 16-012 announcing that beginning October 1, 2016, the State would no longer distribute SABG HIV EIS funding. Additionally, the Information Notice indicated that federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015 SABG HIV EIS funds should be fully expended by September 30, 2016.

### DISCUSSION

DHCS understands that due to the significant delay in receiving the FFY 2016 SABG award and the timing of the notification of a change in HIV EIS designee status, some counties had already budgeted a portion of their FFY 2016 SABG allocation for HIV EIS services

prior to the date of the Information Notice. In response, DHCS sought and received approval from SAMHSA to use FFY 2016 SABG funds to cover the cost of these budgeted HIV EIS services.

Therefore, any county that had already budgeted a portion of their FFY 2016 SABG allocation for HIV EIS services prior to the date of Information Notice 16-012 can expend FFY 2016 SABG funds to cover these costs.

### PROCESSING GUIDANCE

DHCS will re-open the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2015-16 Budget Act Allocation to allow counties to use FFY 2016 SABG funds for budgeted HIV EIS services. DHCS has attached a copy of the SFY 2015-16 HIV EIS and Discretionary Allocation Funds for your review. Per MHSUDS Information Notice 16-012, the HIV EIS allocations for each county were moved to their Discretionary funds. The attached allocation transfers HIV EIS funds back from Discretionary funds.

Counties will need to inform the SUD Program, Policy and Fiscal Division, Fiscal Policy Unit of the amount of their FFY 2016 SABG HIV EIS award they intend to use by **December 10, 2016**. For counties who do not respond by this date, it will be assumed that no funds were used for HIV EIS services, hence HIV EIS funds will remain in their Discretionary fund. An Information Notice with the new allocation amounts will be released from the information received by counties to close out SFY 2015-16 and FFY 2016 SAPT funding.

### Quarterly Federal Financial Management Report (QFFMR)

Due to this change in direction, DHCS will move the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter QFFMR due date for FY 2016-17 to **January 1, 2017**.

### QUESTIONS

Questions concerning this notice and its attachment should be directed to Maurilio Mendez at [Maurilio.Mendez@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Maurilio.Mendez@dhcs.ca.gov)

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Karen Baylor, Ph.D., LMFT, Deputy Director  
Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Services

Attachment