



JENNIFER KENT
DIRECTOR

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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

March 14, 2017

Sent via e-mail to: jconnolly@ph.lacounty.gov

John M. Connolly, Deputy Director
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control
1000 South Fremont Avenue,
Building A-9 East, 3rd Floor, Box 34
Alhambra, California 91803-4737

SUBJECT: State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2016-17 - County Monitoring Unit Report

Dear Deputy Director Connolly:

Enclosed are the results of Los Angeles County's 2016-17 Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant (BG)¹, and the State County Contract compliance review. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is responsible for monitoring requirements of the SAPT BG and the terms of the State County Contract operated by Los Angeles County.

The County Monitoring Unit (CMU) within the Performance Management Branch (PMB) of DHCS performed a comprehensive review based on responses to the monitoring instrument, discussion with county staff, supporting documentation and requirements. The enclosed report addresses and/or identifies compliance deficiencies, required corrective actions, advisory recommendations, and referral for technical assistance.

Los Angeles County is required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) addressing each deficiency noted to the CMU Analyst by April 14, 2017. The CAP must follow the guidelines detailed within the attached report. Please reference the enclosed CAP instructions and e-mail the CAP to the CMU Analyst. Supporting CAP documentation may be e-mailed or mailed to the address listed below. If you have any questions regarding this report or need assistance, please contact the CMU analyst.

Sincerely,

Emily Bautista
CMU Analyst
(916) 327-2624
emily-cresenciana.bautista@dhcs.ca.gov

Tereza Majkovic
CMU Analyst
(916) 445-6930
tereza.majkovic@dhcs.ca.gov

¹ Title 45 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 96, Subpart L – Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant requirements



County Monitoring Unit Report
Los Angeles

Distribution:

To: John M. Connolly
Deputy Director

CC: Victoria King-Watson, Substance Use Disorder Program, Policy and Fiscal Division, Assistant Division Chief
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Cynthia Hudgins, Drug Medi-Cal Monitoring Unit I, Supervisor
Stephanie Quok, Drug Medi-Cal Monitoring Unit II, Supervisor
Danielle Stumpf, Office of Women, Perinatal and Youth Services, Supervisor
Tiffany Stover, Postservice Postpayment Unit I, Supervisor
Janet Rudnick, Postservice Postpayment Unit II, Supervisor
Trudi Romero, Policy and Prevention Branch, Office Technician
Wesley L. Ford, Interim Director, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control
Gloria Ortiz-Hernandez, Management Secretary, Health Promotion Bureau
Daniel Deniz, Interim Chief, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

Date: March 14, 2017

Report Prepared by: *Emily Bautista, County Monitoring Analyst*
Tereza Majkovic, County Monitoring Analyst

Manager Approval: *Susan Jones, County Monitoring Supervisor*

Lead CMU Analyst:

Emily Bautista
Tereza Majkovic

Review Date: February 22 – 23, 2017

County: Los Angeles

Review Period: SFY 2016-17

County Address:

1000 South Fremont Avenue,
Building A-9 East, 3rd Floor, Box 34
Alhambra, California 91803-4737

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is required to provide programmatic, administrative, and fiscal oversight of the statewide Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPT BG), the State County Contract, and Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services through annual compliance reviews.

This report summarizes the findings of the compliance review conducted by the County Monitoring Unit (CMU).

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Pursuant to the State County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I, Part V, Section 4, 7, (a-b) each deficiency identified must be addressed via a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). The CAP is due within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of this monitoring report. Advisory recommendations are not required to be addressed in the CAP.

The Corrective Action Plan shall:

1. Address each programmatic deficiency;
2. Provide a specific description of how the deficiency will be corrected;
3. Identify the staff person responsible for correcting the deficiency and ensuring future compliance;
4. Specify the target date for complete implementation of each deficiency; and
5. As deficiencies are corrected, include training documentation, revised policies/procedures, and other materials which demonstrate the correction of a deficiency, if applicable.

The CMU analyst will monitor progress of CAP implementation until complete.

REVIEW SCOPE

- I. Regulations:
 - a. 22 CCR § 51341.1 – Drug Medi-Cal Substance Use Disorder Services
 - b. 9 CCR, Division 4, Chapter 4, Subchapter 1 – 6: Narcotic Treatment Programs
 - c. 45 CFR; Part 96; Subpart L; §96.121 through 96.137: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
 - d. 42 USC, Section 300x-21 through 300x-66: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block
 - e. HSC, Division 10.5, Section 11750 – 11970: State Department of Health Care

- II. Program Requirements:
 - a. State Fiscal Year (SFY) 14/15 - 16/17 State County Contract, herein referred to as State County Contract
 - b. State of California *Youth Treatment Guidelines Revised August 2002*
 - c. DHCS *Perinatal Services Network Guidelines FY 2016-17*
 - d. National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS)
 - e. Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP) Bulletins
 - f. Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Services (MHSUDS) Information Notices

1.0 ADMINISTRATION

A review of the County's Organizational Chart, subcontracted contracts, and policies and procedures was conducted to ensure compliance with applicable regulations and standards. The following deficiencies in regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

CD 1.5:

State County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I, Part I, G

No Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant funds made available through this Contract shall be used to carry out any program that includes the distribution of sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug unless the State chooses to implement a demonstration syringe services program for injecting drug users.

Exhibit A, Attachment I, Part I, X

Contractor shall include all of the foregoing provisions in all of its subcontracts.

Finding: The County does not include the provision G within subcontracted provider contracts.

2.0 SAPT BG MONITORING

The following deficiencies in the SAPT BG monitoring requirements were identified:

After review of the program's protocols, policies and procedures, no deficiencies were cited.

3.0 DRUG MEDI-CAL

The following DMC deficiencies in regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

After review of the program's protocols, policies and procedures, no deficiencies were cited.

ADVISORY RECOMMENDATIONS:

AR 3.33:

State-County Contract Exhibit A, Attachment I, Part V, Section 4, B-1,(d)

Contractor must monitor and attest compliance and/or completion by Providers with CAP requirements (detailed in Section 4, Paragraph (A)(2)(c)) as required by any PSPP review. Contractor shall attest to DHCS, using the form developed by DHCS that the requirements in the CAP have been completed by the Contractor and/or the Provider. Submission of DHCS Form 8049 form by Contractor must be accomplished within the timeline specified in the approved CAP, as noticed by DHCS.

Recommendation: County shall consider developing a more frequent CAP follow-up process for ensuring all subcontracted provider CAPS are completed.

4.0 PERINATAL

The following deficiencies in Perinatal Services regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

CD 4.38:

45 CFR 96.131 (b)

...will in carrying out this provision publicize the availability to such women of services from the facilities and the fact that pregnant women receive such preference. This may be done by means of street outreach programs, ongoing public service announcements (radio/television), regular advertisements in local/regional print media, posters placed in targeted areas, and frequent notification of availability of such treatment distributed to the network of community based organizations, health care providers, and social service agencies.

State County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I, Part I, K.

To ensure equal access to quality care by diverse populations, each service provider receiving funds from this contract shall adopt the federal Office of Minority Health Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Service (CLAS) national standards (Document 3V).

Office of Minority Health National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards-Standard 8

Provide easy-to-understand print and multimedia materials and signage in the languages commonly used by the populations in the service area.

Finding: The County did not provide samples in up to five (5) County threshold language(s).

5.0 ADOLESCENT/YOUTH TREATMENT (AYT)

The following deficiencies in Adolescent/Youth Treatment regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

After review of the program's protocols, policies and procedures, no deficiencies were cited.

6.0 FISCAL AUDITING

The following deficiencies in Fiscal Auditing regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

After review of the program's protocols, policies and procedures, no deficiencies were cited.

7.0 PRIMARY PREVENTION

The following deficiencies in Primary Prevention regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

After review of the program's protocols, policies and procedures, no deficiencies were cited.

8.0 CULTURAL COMPETENCE

The following deficiencies in Cultural Competence regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

CD 8.52:

State County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I, Part I, K.

To ensure equal access to quality care by diverse populations, each service provider receiving funds from this contract shall adopt the federal Office of Minority Health Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Service (CLAS) national standards (Document 3V).

Office of Minority Health National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards, Standard 5, Standard 8, Standard 11 and Standard 12

- *Standard 5 - Offer language assistance to individuals who have limited English proficiency and/or other communication needs, at no cost to them, to facilitate timely access to all health care and services.*
- *Standard 8 - Provide easy-to-understand print and multimedia materials and signage in the languages commonly used by the populations in the service area.*
- *Standard 11 - Collect and maintain accurate and reliable demographic data to monitor and evaluate the impact of CLAS on health equity and outcomes and to inform service delivery.*
- *Standard 12 - Conduct regular assessments of community health assets and needs and use the results to plan and implement services that respond to the cultural and linguistic diversity of populations in the service area.*

Finding: The County did not provide evidence of compliance with CLAS Standard 8. While the County provided evidence that print, multimedia, and signage are available in English and Spanish, the County did not demonstrate these materials are available in all commonly used languages within the county.

9.0 ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS (EHR)

The following deficiencies in Electronic Health Records regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

After review of the program's protocols, policies and procedures, no deficiencies were cited.

10.0 CALIFORNIA OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT SYSTEM TREATMENT (CalOMS Tx) AND DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT ACCESS REPORT (DATAR)

The following deficiencies in CalOMS and DATAR regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

CD 10.57.b:

State County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I, Part III, F, (3)

Contractor shall comply with the treatment and prevention data quality standards established by the State. Failure to meet these standards on an ongoing basis may result in withholding non-DMC funds.

Finding: The County and its provider(s) did not report CalOMS Tx data, and did not generate a Provider No Activity (PNA) report.

CD 10.57.d:

State County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I, Part III, F, (3)

Contractor shall comply with the treatment and prevention data quality standards established by the State. Failure to meet these standards on an ongoing basis may result in withholding non-DMC funds.

Finding: The County and its provider(s) annual updates or client discharges for beneficiaries in treatment over one year were not submitted.

CD 10.57.e:

State County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I, Part III, G (1), (2)

1. The Contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that the Contractor-operated treatment services and all treatment providers with whom Contractor makes a contract or otherwise pays for the services, submit a monthly DATAR report in an electronic copy format as provided by the State.

2. The Contractor shall ensure that all DATAR reports are submitted by either Contractor-operated treatment services and by each subcontracted treatment provider to the State by the 10th of the month following the report activity month.

Finding: The County and its provider(s) do not submit DATAR reports by the 10th of each month.

11.0 PRIVACY AND INFORMATION SECURITY

The following deficiencies in Privacy and Information Security regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

CD 11.60:

State County Contract, Exhibit G-3, Attachment A, 1, A.

Employee Training. All workforce members who assist in the performance of functions or activities on behalf of the Department, or access or disclose Department PHI or PI must complete information privacy and security training, at least annually, at Contractor's expense. Each workforce member who receives information privacy and security training must sign a certification, indicating the member's name and the date on which the training was completed. These certifications must be retained for a period of six (6) years following termination of this Agreement.

Finding: The County did not provide documentation of annual privacy and security training

CD 11.62:

State County Contract, Exhibit G-3, Attachment A, 1, C.

Confidentiality Statement. All persons that will be working with Department PHI or PI must sign a confidentiality statement that includes, at a minimum, General Use, Security and Privacy Safeguards, Unacceptable Use, and Enforcement Policies. The statement must be signed by the workforce member prior to access to Department PHI or PI. The statement must be renewed annually. The Contractor shall retain each person's written confidentiality statement for Department inspection for a period of six (6) years following termination of this Agreement.

Finding: The County does not renew employee's confidentiality statement annually.

CD 11.76.c:

State County Contract, Exhibit G-2, 3, B, 2-3.

2) **Safeguards.** To implement appropriate and reasonable administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect the security, confidentiality and integrity of Department PI and PII, to protect against anticipated threats or hazards to the security or integrity of Department PI and PII, and to prevent use or disclosure of Department PI or PII other than as provided for by this Agreement. Contractor shall develop and maintain a written information privacy and security program that include administrative, technical and physical safeguards appropriate to the size and complexity of Contractor's operations and the nature and scope of its activities, which incorporate the requirements of section 3, Security, below. Contractor will provide DHCS with its current policies upon request.

3) **Security.** Contractor shall take any and all steps necessary to ensure the continuous security of all computerized data systems containing PHI and/or PI, and to protect paper documents containing PHI and/or PI. These steps shall include, at a minimum:

- a. Complying with all of the data system security precautions listed in Attachment A, Business Associate Data Security Requirements;

- b. Providing a level and scope of security that is at least comparable to the level and scope of security established by the Office of Management and Budget in OMB Circular No. A-130, Appendix III- Security of Federal Automated Information Systems, which sets forth guidelines for automated information systems in Federal agencies; and*
- c. If the data obtained by Contractor from DHCS includes PII, Contractor shall also comply with the substantive privacy and security requirements in the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act Agreement between the SSA and the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) and in the Agreement between the SSA and DHCS, known as the Information Exchange Agreement, which are attached as Attachment I and incorporated into this Agreement. The specific sections of the IEA with substantive privacy and security requirements to be complied with are sections E, F, and G, and in Attachment 4 to the IEA, Electronic Information Exchange Security Requirements, Guidelines and Procedures for Federal, State and Local Agencies Exchanging Electronic Information with the SSA. Contractor also agrees to ensure that any agents, including a subcontractor to whom it provides DHCS PII, agree to the same requirements for privacy and security safeguards for confidential data that apply to Contractor with respect to such information.*

Finding: The County did not provide a copy of the requested policies and procedures which address PI.

CD 11.78:

State County Contract, Exhibit G-1,13 (a-c)
Exhibit G-2, 9 (a-c)

Breaches and Security Incidents. During the term of this Agreement, Contractor agrees to implement reasonable systems for the discovery and prompt reporting of any breach or security incident, and to take the following steps:

- a. **Initial Notice to the Department.** (1) To notify the Department immediately by telephone call or email or fax upon the discovery of a breach of unsecured PHI in electronic media or in any other media if the PHI was, or is reasonably believed to have been, accessed or acquired by an unauthorized person. (2) To notify the Department within 24 hours (one hour if SSA data) by email or fax of the discovery of any suspected security incident, intrusion or unauthorized access, use or disclosure of PHI in violation of this Agreement or this ExhibitG-1, or potential loss of confidential data affecting this Agreement. A breach shall be treated as discovered by Contractor as of the first day on which the breach is known, or by exercising reasonable diligence would have been known, to any person (other than the person committing the breach) who is an employee, officer or other agent of Contractor. Notice shall be provided to the Information Protection Unit, Office of HIPAA Compliance. If the incident occurs after business hours or on a weekend or holiday and involves electronic PHI, notice shall be provided by calling the Information Protection Unit (916.445.4646, 866-866-0602) or by emailing (privacyofficer@dhcs.ca.gov). Notice shall be made using the DHCS "Privacy Incident Report" form, including all information known at the time. Contractor shall use the most current version of this form, which is posted on the DHCS information Security Officer website (www.dhca.ca.gov, then select "Privacy" in the left column and then "Business Partner" near the middle of the page) or use this link Upon discovery of a breach or suspected security incident, intrusion or unauthorized access, use or disclosure of Department PHI, Contractor shall take:*

- i) *Prompt corrective action to mitigate any risks or damages involved with the breach and to protect the operating environment; and*
 - ii) *Any action pertaining to such unauthorized disclosure required by applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.*
- a. ***Investigation and Investigation Report.*** *To immediately investigate such suspected security incident, security incident, breach, or unauthorized access, use or disclosure of PHI. Within 72 hours of the discovery, Contractor shall submit an updated "Privacy Incident Report" containing the information marked with an asterisk and all other applicable information listed on the form, to the extent known at that time, to the Information Protection Unit.*
 - b. ***Complete Report.*** *To provide a complete report of the investigation to the Department Program Contract Manager and the Information Protection Unit within ten (10) working days of the discovery of the breach or unauthorized use or disclosure. The report shall be submitted on the "Privacy Incident Report" form and shall include an assessment of all known factors relevant to a determination of whether a breach occurred under applicable provisions of HIPAA, the HITECH Act, and the HIPAA regulations. The report shall also include a full, detailed corrective action plan, including information on measures that were taken to halt and/or contain the improper use or disclosure. If the Department requests information in addition to that listed on the "Privacy Incident Report" form, Contractor shall make reasonable efforts to provide the Department with such information. If, because of the circumstances of the incident, Contractor needs more than ten (10) working days from the discovery to submit a complete report, the Department may grant a reasonable extension of time, in which case Contractor shall submit periodic updates until the complete report is submitted. If necessary, a Supplemental Report may be used to submit revised or additional information after the completed report is submitted, by submitting the revised or additional information on an updated "Privacy Incident Report" form. The Department will review and approve the determination of whether a breach occurred and whether individual notifications and a corrective action plan are required.*

Finding: The County did not demonstrate a process in place for reporting breached or security incidents to DHCS that include:

- Notifying DHCS immediately by telephone, e-mail, or fax
- Notifying DHCS within 24 hours of a suspected security incident
- Utilizing "Privacy Security Incident Report" form
- Submitting "Privacy Incident Report" form within 72 hours
- Providing a complete report within 10 working days of breach or disclosure

12.0 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

DHCS's County Monitoring Analyst will make referrals for the training and/or technical assistance identified below.

The County did not request Technical Assistance for FY 16-17.