

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS

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February 9, 2004

TO: County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators
Drug Medi-Cal Direct Contract Providers

SUBJECT: FIELD READINESS ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE CALIFORNIA
OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

This letter is to inform you that the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) completed the field readiness assessment for the implementation of the California Outcomes Measurement System (CalOMS). Representatives from fifty (50) counties and thirteen (13) direct providers participated in regional meetings. All counties and eleven (11) direct providers completed surveys. The rate of completion for counties is an impressive 100 percent. We congratulate counties on this outstanding accomplishment! The responses received through this process provide key information for ADP to consider as implementation progresses. ADP appreciates your participation and provision of frank and constructive input.

The result is the Field Readiness Assessment Report containing the findings relative to the counties' readiness for CalOMS. This report identifies, in part, what needs to be accomplished to achieve readiness. The Field Readiness Assessment Report is available on the CalOMS webpage, located on ADP's website <http://www.adp.ca.gov>.

The findings of the Field Readiness Assessment Report were shared at the last Quarterly Meeting of the County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association of California (CADPAAC). Participants concerns included:

- The implementation and ongoing costs of CalOMS and the source of funding
- The amount of data required by the ASI and the workforce issues associated with training staff to administer and interpret the ASI
- Client follow-up requirements
- Potential reduction in the number of clients that can be served, i.e., expansion of waiting lists
- Ability of counties and providers to meet the October 2004 timeframe
- Extensive training that will be required for using the ASI, enhanced automation, and locating clients for follow-up interviews
- Lack of funding for new or modified information technology systems and time required to build or modify those systems



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Kathryn P. Jett, Director, ADP, has convened the California Outcomes Monitoring Program (CalOMP) Implementation Workgroup to help ADP find solutions, make recommendations regarding the issues raised in the Field Readiness Assessment Report, and to ensure direct communication with stakeholders is established and facilitated. Membership includes County Representatives, Treatment and Prevention Service Providers, Researchers, Constituent and Association Representatives.

This Workgroup is key in identifying and prioritizing options to resolve or mitigate field readiness issues relative to the project scope, schedule, resources and approach. ADP will advise the field of the group recommendations and ADP decisions as soon as possible following final decisions.

On behalf of ADP and the Field Readiness Assessment team, we look forward to continuing our collaboration on CalOMS with you and invite your feedback throughout implementation. For questions about the Field Readiness Assessment Report, please contact the Field Readiness Project Team at (916) 323-6651 or aocel@adp.state.ca.us.

Sincerely,



JESSE A. MCGUINN, M.S.W.
Deputy Director
Program Operations Division

cc: Strategic Local Government Services, LLC
(formerly Wagerman Associates, Inc.)